

# THE AMERICAN FARMER,



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## NOVEMBER.

"O, Autumn! why so soon  
Depart the hues that make thy forests glad;  
Thy gentle wind and thy fair sunny noon,  
And leave thee wild and sad!"

Our beautiful Autumn season is putting off its gorgeous coloring, and chill northern blasts admonish us of the approach of winter. The time has come for closing up the labours of the year. The tale of the season is told; success or failure is determined.

To a very large number of the tillers of the soil, it has been a season of unusual failure and disappointment. The promises of the hopeful spring-time have not been realized. The opening bud has been blasted. The burden of the grain field has withered in the summer-sun. The towering corn has waited in vain for the refreshment of the latter rains. Tempests of wind and storms of hail have laid waste many districts. The flock has been cut off from the fold, and the herd has perished from the stall. Yet true as all this is, it is only of our superfluity that we have failed. It is only that every year our blessings so abound, that a comparative failure now seems hard to bear. If our gains have not come up to our anticipations, we may still get the "great gain" of contentment. And having this we will not fail still to offer our annual Thanksgiving,—our "grateful vows and solemn praise" to Him, whom we acknowledge as the author and giver of all good things.

## WORK FOR THE MONTH.

### WHEAT CROP.

Finish off the wheat sowing as early as possible, leaving it when done well compacted with harrow and roller. All that is sown this month should have a dressing of guano to force it on rapidly.—For wheat sown now, the guano is equal to ten days of time, and every wheat grower knows the value of this, as against frost, fly and blight.

*Water furrows.*—When the cultivation is flat, lay off water furrows sufficient to take away quickly all superfluous water; it is this which causes the heaving of the land, and the consequent winter-kill ing. On hill sides to prevent washing, lay off furrows around, and gradually sloping to the bottom of the hill.

*Under-draining.*—All land in which wheat is liable to be winter killed should be permanently underdrained to rid it of excessive water. This is a favourable season for such work. Ditches cut twenty-four inches in width and two and a half to three feet in depth, and carefully laid with tile or small stone, will give a greatly increased and permanent value to all such land.

### TOBACCO.

As the tobacco becomes dry, do not allow it to be exposed to damp weather or high winds, but keep the doors closed, except in fine weather.—Should hard frost come while the tails are still green, have the houses as close as possible to prevent freezing.

*Stripping.*—Do not commence *stripping* until the stems of the tobacco are thoroughly cured. After this takes place, lose no season when it is in good order. It is very desirable to have this work off your hands before the busy season of Spring.

### CORN.

It is important of course to have the corn crop secured as early as possible. Such as has been stripped of tops and blades will be now sufficiently cured to put into the cribs. When it has been cut off at the ground the process of curing is slow, and much caution is necessary in putting it away in large quantities. A great deal of corn was in this way damaged last season.

There is much economy of labour in husking in the field, and with a large crop on hand this is important. With a small crop, if it can be pulled and stored in the husk under lock, the husking may be done at a more leisure time, or in bad

weather, and the husks will be well preserved for fodder.

#### POTATOES AND ROOT CROPS.

Get all such crops well secured at once. If you have a large crop of potatoes, the work may be much facilitated by the use of the potato plough. We have had one for some years, which was made by Messrs. Pitkin of Manchester, Connecticut, which throws out the potatoes, entirely clear of the earth, as fast as eight or ten hands can gather, and better than is usually done with the hoe.

Let potatoes be as little as possible exposed to sun and air and secured at once in the cellar or the earth. We prefer the latter as keeping them safer and in better order. Select a dry and well drained spot, and put them not in pits or holes, but in pyramids on top of the ground—from 20 to 50 bushels in one heap, as may suit your convenience in taking them up during winter. Having a good wisp of straw from the ground through the centre of the pile to the top as a chimney for the passage of moisture, after the heaping and covering are completed. Carry the heaps well up to a point—put a good layer of dry straw, and then a layer of earth, and be very careful to secure them against the entrance of water. As severe weather approaches another layer of straw and earth should be put on to ensure safe keeping. Turnips and other roots may be secured in the same way.

#### ICE PONDS.

Have your ice pond early put in order. Have the grass and weeds carefully cleared off. Let the water in early, especially if the flow of water be not full. The sides of the dam absorb it largely, and it is important to have the pond full before freezing commences. Have the stream so arranged that when the pond is full, the water may be turned off.

#### HOG FEEDING.

The feeding of Hogs for bacon should be now pushed on—feeding them three times a day, and giving as much as they will eat of well prepared food, and of the best quality. We have nothing equal to corn.

*Waste.*—It is no exaggeration to say that one third of the corn fed to fattening hogs, in open pens and on the ground is absolutely wasted. In the first place hard corn is not fit food for them. They will not digest the whole of it and a large portion is wasted; it should at least be well soaked upon the ear; but better still it should be shelled and soaked; better still it should be ground and soaked, and better still it should be ground and boiled or steamed.

*Manure.*—An important memorandum in connection with hog feeding is the saving of manure.—Fed exclusively on the richest food, the manure made while fattening is without question the best made on the farm. Let it be carefully preserved and mixed with litter, which will absorb the mois-

ture. Beside the advantage in feeding of having fattening hogs off the ground, the manure can be much better taken care of.

#### GATHERING MATERIAL FOR MANURE.

There is usually some good material for manure on the waste places of the farm, and during this month it is well to get together into your yards, enough to absorb and mix with the droppings of the stock before the coarse litter begins to accumulate from feeding.

#### CATTLE FEEDING.

Do not delay too long the regular feeding of cattle with good food. It is all important that they should go into the winter in good condition, and it is very mistaken economy to feed them grudgingly and with indifferent food early in the season, for the sake of ensuring an abundant supply at a late period. A healthy animal will always be in good condition in the Fall on sufficient food, and the best possible security against short commons in Spring, and the debilitating effect of Spring weather is in the health and strength and fat which he has now stored up within his hide.

#### SHEDDING.

Open sheds are better than stalls, and room to range somewhat in all good weather, better than confinement. But let them go, not where *they* choose, but where *you* choose, and limit them to grounds that will not be damaged by poaching when wet.

### WORK IN THE GARDEN.

#### NOVEMBER.

The work for this month is chiefly to close up for the season, and finish off such operations as remain from last month.

*Strawberry Beds.*—If you have not already cleared off your Strawberry Beds, let it be now done. Rid it entirely of weeds and grass roots. Fork well in, some well rotted manure or compost, between the rows, and cover the ground with long straw laid along the rows, and pegged or weighted down, to prevent its being blown off—or wanting straw, use long litter of any sort.

*Celery.*—Earth up Celery to bleach, while the condition of the ground will allow it.

*Endives.*—Earth up Endives for blanching.

*Rhubarb or Pie Plant.*—It is very well to put seeds of the Pie Plant in the ground in fall, to ensure their early germination in spring.

*Early Potatoes.*—A square of potatoes for early use, may very properly be planted, before the ground freezes. Plant as usual, and cover the entire surface with coarse litter or straw, twelve inches in depth. They will probably start in spring a week in advance of the spring planting.

*Winter Spinage.*—If not done before, thin your Winter Spinage to a distance of four inches.

*Asparagus Beds.*—If not dressed as directed last month, attend to it now. It is an important early spring vegetable, and well repays care.

*Kitchen Herbs.*—Garlic, Thyme, Sage, and all such Herbs may still be set out.

*Cabbages and Roots.*—Have these all now well secured for winter.

*Raspberries, Gooseberries, Currants.*—These may all be still planted out during the month.

*Fruit Trees.*—Fruit Trees may still be planted. Plant carefully, as directed last month, and be sure to have no water standing about their roots.

### FLORICULTURE—November, 1858.

*Prepared for the American Farmer, by W. D. Brackenridge, Florist and Pomologist, Govanstown, Balt. Co., Md.*

*Dahlias.*—So soon as the leaves and flowers have got killed by the frosts, the whole head should be cut off to within ten inches of the ground, and the top laid upon the stock, to keep off the frosts, until the roots get well ripened, when they should be lifted before hard weather sets in, choosing a dry day for this purpose; clean off all earth from the roots, and store them away in a dry cellar, or under the stage of the greenhouse.

*Chrysanthemums*—should receive a free supply of water, and be kept in an airy part of the house, where they will continue to bloom long, and ripen seeds, from which you can raise new kinds, by sowing early in spring; those plants not wanted for seed should, as soon as done blooming, be cut down within two inches of the pots, and then placed away in a cold frame, or under the front of the greenhouse stage.

*Mignonette*—if in small pots, should now be shifted into larger ones; use light earth, and drain the pots well.

*Double Sweet scented Violets*—in frames, should receive abundance of air; stir up the surface of the bed, and top-dress with well rotted leaves or manure.

*Roses.*—Continue to put in cuttings, and pot off all such as have made roots; lift out of the ground and place in pots such plants as you wish to bloom early in spring in the house—see memo. for last month.

*Pelargoniums*—that are wanted to bloom early, may now be moved into larger pots; water these and the general stock but very moderately at this season of the year.

*Ten-week Stocks and Pansies*—sown last month, may now be pricked off into pans or boxes; use a rich, light, sandy earth for this purpose.

*Ixias, Sparaxis and other Cape Bulbs.*—Water these but very sparingly, until they are in full growth, when it may be given them more freely.

*Camellias*—will soon be coming into bloom; let the atmosphere be rather humid than dry; wash the leaves with a sponge, and thin out the buds when they are too thick, syringing occasionally in mild weather with soft water.

*Greenhouse and Conservatory.*—It is presumed that all the plants belonging to these have been taken in and neatly arranged during last month; continue

to give plenty of air in mild weather, as the success of bringing plants well through a long winter, in a great measure depends on this; when the weather is clear, syringe the plants overhead in the morning with soft water.

*Flower Garden.*—Remove all decayed annual plants, and cut down to within four inches of the ground, all perennial ones; these, with leaves and weeds raked from the surface, thrown into a heap, will in time form an excellent compost for tender plants. Collect all plant stakes, tie them up in bundles, and store away for next year. Manure and rough-dig all flower beds and borders; this will save much labour in spring.

### RAISING CALVES.

In a letter addressed to the "Country Gentleman," and published in a recent number of that paper, Wm. H. Sotham, so well known for his partiality to "Herefords" and as a successful stock grower, remarks upon the subject of raising calves, as follows:—

"I have been much pleased with a description a Devon breeder gave me of raising his calves, and which I intend to adopt in future. He has a small pasture adjoining his milking yard, milks two teats of each cow dry, and when all are thus milked, lets in his calves to take the remainder; this quantity of milk, with good pasture, keeps them in good growing condition. When taken from the cows, he grinds four bushels of oats with one of linseed; this fed moderately to them through the winter, mixed with chaff and a few small cut roots, keeps them in a growing state the whole year. I look upon this course as the true way of raising calves, and I consider it strict economy. They come out in the spring, and keep in growing condition the whole of the summer, until the heifers come in for the dairy, when they require better feed to keep up both milk and flesh."

### SALE OF SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

We abridge from the "Country Gentleman," a statement of prices obtained at a recent sale, in the State of New York, of the Short-Horn cattle of Mr. Chapman. Except Mr. Tallmadge, of Bound Brook, N. J., who bought two cows, all the purchasers appear to have been residents of the first named State. Dutchess, \$215; Hilpa IV, \$300; Apricot, \$500; Romelia, \$320; Garland II, \$425; Lady Booth, \$510; Ruby II, \$410; Gazelle, \$440; Victorine, \$185; Bright Eyes III, \$400. Of Bulls offered, four were sold. Jacintha's Oxford, \$150; Plato, \$100; Pluto, \$50. These were all calves, the last, only five or six weeks old. The bull "Duke of Oxford" was disposed of at private sale for \$1,500, to E. Cornell, of Ithaca. The ten cows sold, averaged \$370.50 each.

Men are born with but two eyes, but with one tongue, in order that they should see twice as much as they say. The same is also applicable to women and boys.

11th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MARYLAND  
STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 18th, 1858.

The Annual Meeting of the Maryland State Agricultural Society commenced this evening, at Carroll Hall. JOHN MERRYMAN, Esq., President, on taking the Chair, briefly addressed the members in substance as follows:—

“Gentlemen of the Agricultural Society:—

“It has been a matter of speculation, with many, whether there would, or would not, be an Eleventh annual meeting of this Society. I confess not to have been sanguine that it would be my privilege to have witnessed at the opening of our annual meeting such a large representation of Farmers, and to find upon our Show grounds, such evidences as I have seen there this day, of the fact, that the spirit of our people is, for a continuation of the association, without regard to drawbacks, such as we have experienced within the past year.

“It is not my purpose to enter into the details of the proceedings of the Executive Committee, but simply to refer to the fact, that upon being inducted into office on 1st of December last, I found a large debt due by the Society and unprovided for. A special meeting of the Committee was called to meet on 12th January last, to consider the proper steps to be taken to continue our existence. It was deemed advisable to memorialize the Legislature then in session, to vote us the sum of \$4,500, in cash, and to secure an annuity of \$500 per annum thereafter. A committee, among whom were our most active members, proceeded to Annapolis and presented their memorial—it asked only that the State Agricultural Society should receive from the State Treasury, the sum already paid, and provided to be paid towards sustaining the Exhibitions of the Maryland Institute. We claim that the Institute had only been properly cared for, and that we, representing the great interest of the State, could ask for no less, particularly as our necessities were urgent. Appended to our memorial were statistics showing to what extent our sister States had provided for sustaining their Agricultural Societies. A bill was reported by the Chairman of the Committee upon Agriculture in the House of Delegates and passed that body—but was defeated in the Senate, for the want of three votes—now, gentlemen of the Society, I request particular attention to the vote in the Senate, in favor of our bill.

“Now, Sirs, if I am not very much mistaken, every farmer in the Senate, with one exception, voted for that bill; and whose fault is it, that we lost it? I say it is your fault, gentlemen; the time has come, when, in voting for a man to represent you, in our Senate Chamber, be sure that he is a farmer, or thoroughly identified with your interest, and not till then will we be properly appreciated in that important branch of our State Legislature. I would not exclude from our legislature other gentlemen whose occupations were different, but I hold that the Senate should be largely preponderating in our favor.”

Mr. G. W. Hughes, of Prince George's county, called attention to the ambiguity of the language of the premium in Class No. 2, of Agricultural Implements, relative to Drilling Machines. The subject, on motion, was referred to the Executive Committee, who subsequently reported the

adoption of the following, as a substitute for the premium, as printed in the list, viz:—“For the best Drilling Machine for grain, with broad-cast attachment to it for grass seed, the premium of \$10.”

The President invited the Judges appointed to examine the Stock, &c., to meet at his office on the grounds to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, when vacancies would be filled.

Mr. J. Howard McHenry, of Baltimore County, from the Executive Committee, offered sundry amendments to the Constitution, which were ordered to be printed, and in accordance with the 12th article thereof, were laid over until Wednesday evening.

The President, having called a meeting of the Executive committee in another apartment, called to the chair, G. M. Eldridge, Esq., Vice President from Cecil.

Mr. J. Conte, of Prince George's County, moved that a committee be appointed for the purpose of proceeding to Washington, to invite the President of the United States and the members of his Cabinet to visit the Cattle Show, which was unanimously adopted. The President appointed Messrs. Conte, Levi K. Bowen, of Baltimore County, and William Barker, of Prince George's County, the Committee.

An invitation was received and read from Mr. Thomas Phenix, proprietor of the Mechanics and Manufacturers Reading Room, inviting the members of the Agricultural Society to visit the same at any time during their sojourn in the city.

No other business claiming attention, the Society adjourned until to-morrow evening at eight o'clock.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 19th, 1858.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment, John Merryman, Esq., President, in the chair.

Dr. S. P. Smith, of Alleghany county, asked that a discretionary power be granted to the Committee on trials of Speed for the first day, to award premiums to the fastest pacing, and also to the fastest trotting horses. Dr. Wharton suggested that the subject properly belonged to the Executive Committee, and moved its reference to them. Dr. Smith accepted the proposition, and it was accordingly referred.

Mr. G. W. Hughes, of Anne Arundel, from the Committee on Alderneys, presented a report, which was read and accepted.

Reports were also received from the committees on Short Horns, Herefords, Natives and Grides and Mixed Wool Sheep, which were severally read and accepted.

Mr. Conte, from the committee appointed to wait on the President and his Cabinet, to invite them to visit the Exhibition of the Society, reported that they had performed that duty; that they had been received by the President in the most cordial manner, and was assured by him that he always felt the deepest interest in such exhibitions, but in consequence of the great press of official business upon his attention at the present time, he could not flatter himself with the hope of being able to accept the kind invitation of the Society. The several members of the Cabinet also expressed the interest they felt in the progress of Agriculture, and some of them expected to be with the Society before its close, and the Secretary of the interior, the Hon. Mr. Thompsons

promised to notify the Committee in due time if they found it possible to be present.

There being no other business before the Society, the President called O. Bowie, Esq., the Vice President from P. George's county, to the chair. Mr. W. D. Bowie, Jr. of P. George's then proposed the discussion by the Society, of the question, "are rail roads conducive to the prosperity of agriculture?"—some conversation took place as to the propriety of the discussion of the question by the Society, but the President decided it to be in order. Mr. John S. Sellman, of Anne Arundel, was then called upon to give his views upon the subject—Mr. S. declining to go into a discussion of the question, on so sudden a call, but took the opportunity briefly to remark, that any plan for the improvement of roads for the accommodation of farmers, in getting their produce to market, met his decided approbation and support—Other gentlemen were also called on to take part in this discussion, but none of them were prepared at the time to do so.

The Secretary read the following report of the Executive Committee, of their proceedings for the last year, which on motion of Dr. Wharton, was accepted—after which the Society adjourned until to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Agreeably to the requirements of the constitution, the Executive Committee would most respectfully submit a report of its proceedings since the last annual meeting of the Society.

The committee held its first meeting after its election on the 1st December, and immediately turned its attention to the state of the finances of the Society. The report of the committee appointed by their predecessors to examine the accounts of the Treasurer, showed a lamentable deficiency in the treasury to meet the engagements of the Society; and so little were the hopes entertained of a possibility of being able to extricate it from its difficulties, that the recommendation of the above committee to sell "all the property of the Society, including the unexpired term of the tenancy in the Show Grounds," was duly considered, and probably but for the confident expectation that assistance could be obtained from the State Legislature, would have been adopted.

The Executive Committee, however, determined to call a joint meeting of the members of the Society, and of the stockholders of the show grounds, to consult upon the means best to be adopted in the present emergency, which was accordingly held on the 12th of January last; but few of the stockholders however responded to the call, and no proposition was received from them in relation to our relinquishment of the grounds, and consequently, all hopes of relief from that source were abandoned.

The Legislature being in session, a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee to prepare a memorial, asking that body for an appropriation to the Society, at least to the same extent that had been extended to the Maryland Institute, whose charter had been granted some nine years preceding, and at the same time an act was passed granting to that excellent institution the sum of \$500 per annum, to aid it in sustaining its annual exhibitions of the mechanic arts. The charter of our Society was obtained the same year with that of the Institute's, but in consequence of the late period of the session in which

it was introduced, we failed to receive any appropriation to aid us in our exhibitions, and the application was never renewed.

A plainer case of sheer justice to the agricultural interests of the State could not have been presented, and the committee appointed to memorialize the Legislature promptly attended to the duty, and not only proved the justice of our claim, but also the propriety and policy thereof, from the evidences of what had been done by other States in aiding and sustaining similar associations, the beneficial effects of their operations being proved by the increased productions of the soil, and in the greater ability of the landholders consequent thereon to bear the burthens of taxation necessary for the support of their respective governments.

The result of this application is too well known. Our prayer was duly considered by the popular branch of the Legislature, and the justice of our demands was accorded to us by the adoption of an act granting to us the sum of \$4,500, (being the same amount which had been received during the past nine years by the Maryland Institute,) and a further provision of an appropriation of \$500 per annum thereafter, on the evidence being presented to the proper fiscal officers of the State, that an exhibition had been held by the Society. The bill as thus adopted was sent to the senate, but from whatever cause it may have happened, it was not brought to final vote until the very last night of the session, when it was defeated by a majority of three votes against it—some of the Senators voting against it from whom a different course should have been expected. The Executive Committee would recommend to the Society some formal testimonial of respect to those members of the Legislature who on this occasion showed themselves ready to stand by the interests of the farmers and planters of the State, and were willing to place them on the same footing, at least, with the mechanics and manufacturers of the city of Baltimore.

The hope of aid from this source being thus cut off, the Executive Committee determined at their meeting in March to dispose of such portions of the lumber, &c., on the ground that it was supposed could be dispensed with, and appropriate the proceeds thereof toward the payment of the debts due by the Society. They also determined on having another annual Exhibition, and invited such of the active members of the society as might be considered as representing the several interests connected with our shows, to attend the meeting in May, to aid in forming the premium list for the next exhibition. The salaries of the Secretary and Marshal, and the commissions of the treasurer, were reduced to one half the former amount.

At the meeting in May, the Committee met and arranged the premium list, as presented herewith, and fixed on the 26th October for the opening of the Exhibition. This, however, it appeared, after our list was published, was in the same week which had been determined on by the United States Agricultural Society for the holding of its exhibition, which is to take place this year at Richmond, and as the Virginia State Society had also arranged to hold its Show at Petersburg the week following that of the United States Society, it was deemed advisable by the Executive Committee, to make a change in the time of holding

ours, to one week earlier than had been fixed on, so that those who might wish to attend the same, would also have it in their power to visit those to be held in Virginia. This change appears to have given much satisfaction, not only to our own people, but to our neighbors of Virginia, who will, no doubt, receive many additions to their exhibitions by the arrangement.

The Executive Committee deemed it proper to reduce the amount of the premiums from the standard of last year, when they had been largely increased over any preceding year. The necessity of a rigid economy in this respect, as also in all other branches of the Society's operations, was called for by the unfortunate condition in which its finances were found by them, in the hope of being able to relieve it from its embarrassment if possible; and accordingly, every effort has been made to reduce the expenses of the exhibition to the lowest point consistent with a proper working of the machinery in all its parts. The Executive Committee is deeply anxious, for the honor of the Society, that every claim justly due against it shall be liquidated at the earliest moment, and they earnestly call upon the members of the Society who may now be in attendance to use their influence and exertions to aid them in their efforts.

The death of John S. Crocket, Esq., of Somerset County, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, having been announced to the Executive Committee, the vacancy was filled by the election of Dr. George R. Dennis.

A committee was appointed by the Executive Committee to suggest such alterations to the Constitution as may be deemed necessary, who reported sundry changes, which have already been presented to the society, and are now before it for its consideration at the time designated by the constitution.

In concluding this report the Executive Committee would not be fulfilling their whole duty, did they not take the occasion to suggest to those who may be selected to succeed them in their duties for the coming year, the absolute necessity of some more systematic plan than has heretofore existed, relative to the management of the finances of the society. Unless this is adopted it will be utterly in vain to expect any permanent prosperity in that department of its operations.

A programme of each day's proceeding was ordered to be prepared, which is accordingly here-with presented. All of which is respectfully submitted.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 20th, 1858.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment—Jno. Merryman, Esq., President in the chair.

Reports from the following committees were received, read and accepted, viz: On Devons, on Herds, on Alderneys, supplementary report on Working Oxen, on Poultry, on imported Cattle, on Ayrshires, on Imported Sheep, on middle wool Sheep, on thorough bred Horses and Jacks, on Agricultural Implements class No. 1,—on Trials of Speed for first day, on small breed Swine. [The several reports will be published in the Farmer.]

The amendments to the Constitution, submitted at the meeting on Monday, were then called up and read, as follows:

In Article III, Strike out the words "A General Secretary, a Treasurer, a Marshal."

In Article IV, read: "The President, Vice Presidents, Curators and Corresponding Secretary shall constitute the Executive Committee, in which shall be vested all the Executive power of the Society, together with the entire control of its property, and the right to appoint and remove all other officers, and to fix their salaries, and to make, establish and fix," &c. &c.

In same article read, "Five (instead of four) of its members shall constitute a quorum," &c.

In Article V, Strike out the paragraph commencing with, "All Subordinate Officers," &c., and insert as follows:—"The President may be suspended from office by a vote of a majority of the whole number of the Executive Committee, at a meeting which may be called by any three members, especially for that purpose, under notice of not less than three weeks, the object for which the meeting is called, being also stated in the notice, or at one of the regular quarterly or annual meetings, by the same vote."

In article VIII, add at the end of the same—"The books of the Treasurer shall be at all times open to the inspection of the Executive Committee."

On motion, the several proposed amendments were taken up in regular order, and those to the 3d, 4th and 8th articles were adopted by the constitutional majority. The amendment to the 5th article was dissented from.

Mr. Clark, of Prince George's Co., proposed that the subject of Agricultural Education should be introduced to the meeting, no other special business being before the Society, and as he saw several gentlemen present connected with the establishment of the Agricultural College in this State, he hoped the President would call on some of them for information in regard to its prospects. The proposition of Mr. Clark was assented to, and the President called upon Charles B. Calvert, Esq., the President of the College, to present to the Society the desired information, to which he responded in his usual forcible and convincing manner. After Mr. C. had concluded his remarks, Dr. Wharton, the Register of the College was called upon, and made an earnest appeal to the farmers of Maryland, to take an interest in the establishment of this institution.

The following gentlemen appeared as delegates from their respective states, viz:—from N. York State Agricultural Society, C. S. Wainright Esq.,—from Iowa, Wm. Duane Wilson, Secretary State Agricultural Society,—from Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, Hon. David Taggart, President, Hon. Eli Stifar, Geo. Morrick, Wm. Frick, A. E. Kapp, Wm. Moore, Jas. Taggart, and Wm. T. Forsyth.

The Society then adjourned until to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock.

BALTIMORE, October 21st, 1858.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment—Jno. Merryman, Esq., President, in the chair.

Reports from the following committees were received, read and accepted, viz:—On Live Muttons—on Agricultural Implements, classes No. 2, 3, 4 and 5—on Milk Cows—on small breed of Swine—on large breed of Swine—on Holstein Cattle—on heavy draft Horses—on long wool Sheep—on fine wool sheep, &c.

Dr. Wharton, called attention to an error in the entries of mixed wool sheep, and for the correction of which offered the following resolution, which was read and concurred in:

**Resolved**, That the report of the committee upon mixed wool sheep, be so altered that the first premium be awarded to Mr. Sterling Thomas, for best mixed long wool—and the 1st premium to Mr. S. S. Bradford, of Va., for best mixed fine wool sheep.

On motion of Mr. M. Goldsborough, it was ordered, that in addition to the printed programme for the last day's exhibition, there shall be a grand cavalcade of premium animals, to take place at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The next business in order, being the election of officers for the ensuing year, Mr. Ramsay McHenry, of Harford co., arose and remarked, that in consideration of the valued and efficient services rendered to the Society during the past year, by *Jno. Merryman, Esq.*, its president, he would move that he be re-elected by acclamation to the office he has filled with so much satisfaction to the Society. Mr. McH. then took the sense of the meeting, and the nomination was unanimously, and with acclamation, confirmed.

Mr. Merryman, returned thanks for the honor conferred upon him, and expressed his gratification that he had been able to give satisfaction to the Society. He, however, had been backed by a working Executive Committee, who had stood nobly by him, and assisted him in all his labors.—Whatever credit was due for good management, the members of the Executive Committee were entitled to a full share of it. He accepted the position that had been assigned him, and would do all in his power to advance the future interests of the Society.

Dr. Wharton, offered the following list of names for Vice Presidents, Curators and Corresponding Secretary, and the nominations of the several gentleman named were confirmed by the Society. After which the meeting adjourned to to-morrow evening:

**VICE PRESIDENTS.**—John H. Sothoron, St. Mary's County; John S. Sellman, Anne Arundel County; Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, Baltimore County; Robert Dick, Montgomery County; Richard Cooke Tilghman, Queen Anne's County; Teagle Townsend, Worcester Co.; Oden Bowie, Prince George's County; J. M. Jacobs, Harford County; John C. Brune, Baltimore City; Charles Carroll, Howard County; Ed. Lloyd, Jr., Talbot County; L. T. Brien, Washington County; Dr. S. P. Smith, Alleghany County; James Tilghman, Somerset County; George R. Dennis, Frederick County; G. M. Eldridge, Cecil County; S. T. C. Brown, Carroll County; John W. Jenkins, Charles County; R. T. Goldsborough, Dorchester County; Edward Wilkins, Kent County; W. Hardcastle, Caroline County; T. H. Gary, Calvert County; Allen Dodge, District of Columbia; J. W. Ware, Western Virginia; Thomas R. Joynes, Eastern Virginia; Gen. Cadwallader, Pennsylvania; Bryan Jackson, Delaware.

**CURATORS.**—William Crichton, Baltimore City; Frank Cooke, Baltimore City; J. N. Goldsborough, Talbot County; J. Mulliken, Prince George's Co.; N. B. Worthington, Anne Arundel County.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.**—J. Howard McHenry, Baltimore County.

October 22d, 1858.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment, J. Merryman, Esq. President, in the chair.

Reports from the following committees were received, read and accepted:—On fast draft and Saddle Horses—on Slaughtered Mutton—on Bacon Hams—on Vegetables—Tobacco—on home-made Bounce and Wines—on Fruit—on Dairy & Honey—additional on Implements and Machinery, class No. 5.—on Flowers—on Household manufactures and productions—on Trials of Speed for Friday—on miscellaneous articles deposited in the Household department.

Mr. J. H. McHenry, moved that the thanks of the Society be tendered to the gentlemen of the press for the very excellent reports made by them, of the exhibition—Mr. Walsh, offered the following as a substitute, which was read and adopted, viz:

**Resolved**,—That the thanks of the Society are due and hereby tendered to the press of the city for the full and comprehensive reports of the exhibition, and especially to Thos. H. Hooper, reporter of the Sun, C. W. Kimberley, of the American, and *Jno. A. Bowen*, of the Exchange, for the great labor they have bestowed in making their reports.

Mr. Aultman, of Ohio, asked leave to tender his thanks to the Society for the courtesy and kindness he had received from the officers and members, and the aid afforded him, after a detention on the way, in obtaining a trial of his Buckeye Mower and Reaper.

The Society then adjourned.

Test

SAMUEL SANDS, Secy.

## REPORTS OF THE JUDGES.

### HERD PREMIUMS.

The committee on Herd Animals, beg leave, most respectfully to report—that they had great pleasure in examining the various herds of fine animals brought before them. The Devon Herds of Messrs. Jacob N. Blakeslee, of Watertown, Connecticut, J. Howard McHenry, of Baltimore County, Md., Capt. Strandberg, of Talbot County, Md., and Oden Bowie, of Prince Georges Co. Md., were all of superior excellence—and where all were so good, your committee had great difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory decision. There were some animals of extraordinary merit in each herd, and your committee could have improved any one of those herds by exchanges with animals in some of the others, but as they were compelled to decide upon the united merit of the animals in each herd, they were compelled to pass over some fine animals in each. There is a marked improvement in this feature of the exhibition over all previous ones.

There were but two herds of Alderneys or Jersey Cattle, exhibited to your committee, viz:—those of Messrs. Wm. C. Wilson and J. Howard McHenry, and both would do credit to any exhibition.

Of Aryshires, your committee saw three herds, viz:—those of Messrs. G. W. Lurman, Dr. N. R. Smith, and Dr. George W. Lawrence.

Messrs. J. Merryman (the President) and Samuel Sutton, exhibited each a herd of Grade Cows and Heifers.

Clement Hill, Esq., exhibited a herd of very superior Short-horns, and although Mr. Hill had no competitor, still his herd deserved and should receive as high a premium as any other, as it was no fault of his that there were not others shown. In conclusion, your committee award as follows: To Clement Hill, for best herd Short-horns.

J. H. McHenry, for best herd Devons.

Wm. C. Wilson, for best herd Alderneys.

G. W. Lurman, for best herd Ayrshires.

J. Merryman, for best herd of Grades.

CHARLES B. CALVERT,

P. T. SIMMONDS,

W. H. OLER.

#### IMPORTED CATTLE.

The committee on Imported Animals beg leave to report—that they saw the fine Alderneys exhibited by Messrs. W. C. Wilson, J. Howard McHenry, and Charles Ridgely of Hampton—the Devons of J. Howard McHenry, Esq., and the Ayrshires of G. W. Lurman, Esq.—and after a full examination of their merits, they award to W. C. Wilson, for Clara, 1st premium, for best Imported Alderney—to C. Ridgely, 2d premium for 2d best do.—to J. H. McHenry, for Dahlia, 1st premium for best Imported Devon Cow—to do. for Rose of Lancaster, 2d premium for 2d best do.—to G. W. Lurman, for Violet, 1st premium for best Imported Ayrshire Cow—to do. for Dairy Maid, 2d premium for 2d best do.

CHARLES B. CALVERT,

P. T. SIMMONDS,

W. H. OLER.

#### SHORT-HORNS.

The committee on Short-horns beg leave to report, that they award the 1st premium of \$20, for Bulls of 3 years of age and over, to Clement Hill, Esq., for Osceola, 5 years old—and the 2d best, \$10, to Chauncy Brooks, Esq. for Buck, 4 yrs old. For Short-horn Cows, 3 years old and over, the 1st premium of \$20, to Clement Hill, Esq., for Sweetheart, 7 years old—and the 2d premium \$10, to Clement Hill, Esq. for Eileen, 8 years old. For Short Horn Heifers between 2 and 3 years, the 1st premium of \$12, to Clement Hill, Esq., for Virginia, 26 months old—and the 2d do. \$6, to J. S. Gittings, Esq., heifer 2 years old. For Short-horn Heifers between 1 and 2 years, 1st premium \$8, to Clement Hill, Esq., for Lily, 17 months old—and 2d premium, \$4, to do. for Fanny, 14 mos. For Short-horn Heifer Calves, under 1 year, the premium of \$4, to Clement Hill, Esq., for Rosetta, 6 months old.

JAMES MULLIKIN,

JOHN S. SELLMAN,

JOSHUA BOSLEY.

#### DEVONS.

The Committee on Devons ask leave to offer the following report:—

They award for the best Bull, 3 years and over, "Uncas," J. H. McHenry, \$20; 2d best do "Montezuma," O. Bowie, \$10.

Best Bull between 2 and 3 years, "Richmond," Captain H. J. Stranberg, \$12.

Best Bull between 1 and 2 years, "Chieftain," Atwood Blunt, \$8; 2d best "Buck," by S. N. Wright, \$4.

Best Devon Bull under 1 year, S. T. C. Brown, \$4.

Best Cow 3 years and over, "Matilda," Capt. H. J. Stranberg, \$20; "Butter Cup," 2d best, Capt. H. J. Stranberg, \$10.

Heifers between 2 and 3 years.

First premium to "Rose," A. M. Morrison, \$12; 2d do "Sunshine," Oden Bowie, \$6.

Heifers between 1 and 2 years.

"Maid of Lodi," 1st premium, O. Bowie \$8; 2d best "Flora," J. N. Blakeslee, \$4.

Heifer Calves under 1 year.

"Beauty," H. J. Stranberg, \$4.

In making this report the Committee experienced much difficulty—they acknowledge that great superiority has been attained in the breeding of this class of animals—they regret that it was not in their power to extend the premium list of the Society. Among exhibitors to whom prizes were not awarded, were Mr. Holcomb, of Delaware, Mr. S. T. Lee, of Harford Co., Md., Mr. Mullikin, of Prince George's, Mr. G. Y. Washington, of Baltimore county, Mr. T. J. Furguson, of same, Mr. A. Kerr, of same, Mr. H. Oler, of same.

The whole number of Devons exhibited were ninety-eight, among which were eighteen of Mr. Patterson's, of Carroll county, not entered for premiums.

GEORGE BLIGHT, of Montgomery Co., Pa.

ELI SLIFER, Lewisburg, Union Co., Pa.

A. E. KAPP, Northumberland.

#### AYRSHIRES.

The committee on Ayrshires, report the following awards:

For the best Bull 3 years old and over, \$20, to Dr. N. R. Smith, for "Highlander"—2d best do. \$10, to G. W. Lurman, for "Gustave." Best Bull between 1 and 2 years, \$8, to G. W. Lurman, for "Theodore." Best Bull under 1 year, \$4, to Dr. Lawrence, for "Roderick." Best Cow 3 years of age and over, \$20, to G. W. Lurman, for "Violet"—2d best do. \$10, to Dr. Smith for "Minna." Best Cow or Heifer between 2 and 3 years, \$12, to G. W. Lurman, for "Rosalie"—2d best do. \$6 to Dr. Lawrence, for "Maid of Ayr." For best Heifer between 1 and 2 years, \$8, to G. W. Lurman, for "Mary"—2d best do. \$4, to do. for "Menno." Best Heifer Calf, \$4, to A. M. Morrison, for "Neetie."

WM. C. WILSON,  
ROBERT GOVER.

#### HEREFORDS.

The Committee on Herefords, report the following awards, viz:—For the best Bull, 3 years old and over, \$20, to Jno. Merryman—and the best Cow 3 years old and over, \$20, also to John Merryman.

G. M. ELDREDGE, Ch'n.

#### ALDERNEYS.

The committee on Alderneys beg leave to report the following awards:—For best Bull between 2 and 3 years, \$12, to Wm. C. Wilson, for Prince—2d best do. \$6, to J. H. McHenry, for Reward. Best Bull between 1 and 2 years, \$8, to J. H. McHenry, for Castor—2d best do. \$4, to Wm. C. Wilson, for Perry. Best Bull under 1 year, \$4, to Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, for Comus. Best Cow 3 years and over, \$20, to J. H. McHenry, for Peace—2d best do. \$10, to Wm. C. Wilson, for Elise. Best Cow or Heifer between

2 and 3 years, \$12, to J. H. McHenry, for Jessie—2d best do. \$6, to Samuel Sutton, for Jinny Glenn. Best Heifer between 1 and 2 years, \$6, to Wm. C. Wilson, for Ariel. Best Heifer Calf under 1 year, \$4, to Wm. C. Wilson, for Grace.

The committee congratulate the Society on the fine Alderneys exhibited; and they express the opinion that this useful breed of cattle can scarcely be surpassed in any other portion of the United States. They refer especially to the herds of Messrs. Wilson and J. H. McHenry, whose animals combine, generally, the best characteristics of their class. The committee has found great difficulty in making their awards, owing to the *superior* quality of the animals submitted to their investigations; but they have discharged their duty to the best of their judgment.

The committee regret they were not furnished with definite information in regard to the dairy qualities of the Alderney Cows, between which they were called upon to decide, as their qualities where equal purity of blood existed, should in their judgment have great weight in forming an opinion. They consider them as probably not inferior to any other breed for the yield and quality of their butter.

GEO. W. HUGHES,  
W. R. S. GITTINGS,  
SAM'L HURLBURT.

The committee on Alderneys beg leave to correct their report submitted yesterday. Under a misapprehension, they awarded no premium for Alderney Bulls over 3 years of age, supposing that an error had been made in the entry. They have therefore the pleasure of recommending the first premium to *Charles Ridgely of Hampton*, for his bull *Pilot*. GEO. W. HUGHES, Chairman.

#### HOLSTEINS.

The committee upon examination of the animals entered for premiums, ascertained that there was only one exhibitor, and from the paucity of animals concluded to award the highest premium to Mr. Sam'l Sutton's 3 year old bull, Jim Crow, as a fine specimen of the Holstein stock.

B. M. BOWDLE,  
DR. A. RIGGS,  
E. J. HALL.

#### NATIVES AND GRADES.

The committee appointed to examine the Native and Grade Cattle, on the Show Grounds, respectfully report, that they have made the following awards:—For best Cow 3 years old, \$12, to J. A. Hamilton for "Perfection"—2d best \$6, to E. T. Elliott, for "Mary Jewell." Best Cow or Heifer between 2 and 3 years, \$8, to Samuel Sutton, for "Sally"—2d best do. \$4, to G. W. Lurman, for "Ella." Best Heifer between 1 and 2 years, \$6, to Clement Hill, for "Nannie"—2d best do. \$2, to D. N. Wright, for "Damsel." Best Heifer Calf, \$4, to John Merryman, for "Verena." The committee would recommend to the Executive Committee a discretionary premium to W. H. Oler, for the 2d best heifer calf, Kate.

B. TONGUE,  
G. W. LAWRENCE,  
DAVID S. SUMWALT.

#### MILCH Cows.

Your committee after careful examination have concluded to award as follows:—To J. A. Ham-

ilton's Cow "Perfection," we award the premium of \$10. To John Merryman's Cow "Bettie," the 2d premium of \$6.

R. H. EVANS,  
SAMUEL SUTTON,  
RALPH HUNT.

#### WORKING OXEN.

The committee on Working Oxen award the premium of \$24 to J. H. McHenry, for the best County Team, consisting of 6 yoke of Oxen.—For the best Yoke of Oxen, a premium of \$16 to J. H. McHenry. For the 2d best Yoke of Working Oxen, a premium of \$12 is awarded to Jacob N. Blakeslee, Watertown, Conn.

EDWARD WILKINS, Ch'n.

#### IMPORTED SHEEP.

The committee on Imported Sheep, beg leave to make the following report:—For best Long Wool Buck, \$8, to Col. Ware, Va.; 2d best \$4, to Col. Ware, Va.; for best Fine Wool Buck, \$8, to S. S. Bradford, Va.; 2d best, \$4, do. For best Long Wool Ewe \$8, to Col. J. W. Ware, Va.; 2d best \$4, do. For best Middle Wool Ewe \$8, to J. H. McHenry, Md.; 2d best \$4, do. For best Fine Wool Ewe \$8, to S. S. Bradford, Va.; 2d best \$4, do. For best Long Wool Ewe \$8, to Col. J. W. Ware, Va.; 2d best \$4, do. For best Angora Buck \$8, to Col. R. France, Md.; 2d best \$4, to G. A. Porter, Md. For best Angora Ewe \$8, to Col. R. France; 2d best \$4, to G. A. Porter.

Your committee would recommend a special premium of \$2 to Henry Carroll, for his Imported Buck. All of which is submitted,

THOS. WOOD, Pa.  
GEORGE MERRICK, Pa.  
SHEPHERD WOOD, Md.

#### LONG WOOL SHEEP.

The Committee on Long Wool Sheep, respectfully beg leave to report that they award the first premium of \$8, to Henry Carroll, Esq., of Baltimore county, for the best buck, 1 year old, and the second premium for do. of \$4, to Henry Carroll. The first premium \$8, for the best pen of ewes, not less than 3, to Mr. Ware. For best pen of buck lambs, not less than 3, the premium of \$4, to Mr. Ware. The premium of \$4 for the best pen of ewe lambs to Mr. Ware.

SAM'L W. WORLINGTON,  
B. F. NALL,  
CHAS. R. CHEW.

#### MIDDLE WOOL SHEEP.

The Judges on Middle Wool Sheep beg leave to make the following report:—For best Buck, \$8, to John C. Jones, Pa.—2d best \$4, to Col. R. France.

For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, \$8, to Col. R. France—2d best do. \$4, to John C. Jones.

For best pen of Buck Lambs, not less than 3, \$4, John C. Jones, Pa.

For best Pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 3, \$4, to John C. Jones, Pa.

The above awards on Middle Wool Sheep, are respectfully submitted,

R. C. TILGHMAN,  
S. T. C. BROWN,  
WM. N. WOLF.

## FINE WOOL SHEEP.

The Committee on Fine Wool Sheep, beg leave to report that they have awarded the first premium of \$8, for the best buck, to S. S. Bradford, and the 2d premium of \$4, to Jacob N. Blakeslee, of Watertown, Connecticut. The 1st premium of \$8, for the best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, to S. S. Bradford, and the 2d premium for do. to S. S. Bradford. The premium of \$4, for the best pen of Buck Lambs, not less than 3, to S. S. Bradford, and the premium of \$4, for best pen of Ewe Lambs, to S. S. Bradford; all of which is respectfully submitted,

B. F. NALL,  
WM. DUANE WILSON,  
CHAS. R. CHEW.

## MIXED WOOL SHEEP.

The Committee on Mixed Wool Sheep, have made the following awards:—

For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, \$8, to Sterling Thomas—2d best do. \$4, to S. S. Bradford. For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 3, \$4, to D. M. Mathews, Baltimore county.

J. O. WHARTON.

## LIVE MUTTONS.

The Committee on Live Muttons award the 1st premium of \$6 to Fred. S. Turner, for the best pen not less than three; and the 2d premium of \$2 to Fred. S. Turner, there being none other on exhibition. Respectfully submitted,

S. S. BRADFORD, Ch'm Com.

## SLAUGHTERED MUTTON.

The Committee on Fat Sheep beg leave to report that they award the 1st premium to Fredk. S. Turner, for the best—and 2d premium to Sterling Thomas, for the 2nd best.

JNO. SCOTT, JNO. H. LONGNECKER,  
BENJ. BARR, ROBT. GOVER.

## SWINE—LARGE BREED.

The committee on Large Breed of Swine, beg leave to submit the following report:—They award to Thos. Wood, the premium of \$6 for the best Boar over 2 years old. To C. Warns, the first premium of \$5 for the best Boar between 1 and 2 years old; the 2d premium of \$2 to B. L. Wood, for the 2d best. To C. Warns, the premium of \$3 for the best Boar between 6 months and 1 year.—To Thos. Wood, the first premium of \$6, for his Sow 2½ years old; to C. Warns, the second premium of \$3 to his sow Maria, 2 years old. To C. Warns, the first premium of \$5 to his sow Suse; to B. L. Wood, 2d premium of \$2 for his sow 1½ years old. *Sows between 6 months and 1 year:*—To C. Warns, the premium of \$3 for his sow Eliza.—*Best lot of Pigs not less than five nor under 6 months:* To Wm. Ashbridge, of Harford Co., the premium of \$10 for his lot of 6 shoats.

JOHN S. SELLMAN,  
JAMES MULLIKEN.

## SWINE—SMALL BREED.

The committee on Small Breed beg leave to report:—For best Boar over 2 years \$6, Billy, to Dr. Hitch; 2d best \$3, to J. H. McHenry. For best Boar between 1 and 2 years \$5, to T. J. Taylor; 2d best \$2, to Charles Calvert. For best Boar be-

tween 6 months and 1 year \$3, to Charles R. Calvert. For best Sow over 2 years \$6, to J. H. McHenry; 2d best \$3, to T. J. Taylor. For best Sow between 1 and 2 years \$5, to W. C. Virgin; 2d best \$2, to T. J. Taylor. For best Sow between 6 Months and 1 year \$3, to J. J. Bowens.—For best lot of Pigs not less than five under 6 months old \$10, to W. C. Virgin. The above awards on Swine of Small Breed is respectfully submitted.

S. T. C. BROWN,  
R. C. TILGHMAN,  
W. N. WOLFE.

## THOROUGH BRED HORSES AND JACKS.

The undersigned Committee appointed to examine and report upon Horses submitted under the programme for to day have the honor to submit the following:

*Thorough Bred Stallions:*—“Childe Harold” 7 years, to P. T. Simmons, 1st premium, \$20.—*Thorough Bred Mares:*—“Dolly” 6 years, to S. B. Hopkins, 1st premium, \$20. *Thorough Bred 3 year olds:*—“Torquato” 3 years, to P. T. Simmons, 1st premium, \$20. *Thorough Bred 2 year Olds:*—“Hector” 2 years, to J. A. Hamilton, 1st premium \$20. *Stallions for all Work:*—“Orphan Boy” 6 years, to W. C. Virgin, 1st premium, \$20. *Lone Morgan* 5 years, to H. Hill, 2d premium \$10.—*Brood Mares:*—“Lady Lightfoot,” 7 years, to J. A. Hamilton, 1st premium. “Nancy,” 12 years, to H. B. Chew, second premium. *Matches for all Work:*—“Polly Wilhelm” and “Bettie Clumson” to E. Scott, 1st premium. “Brutus” and “Cassius,” to R. J. Gittings, 2d premium.

The Committee also beg to mention favorably a pair of 3 year old mares in this connection exhibited by J. A. Hamilton.

*3 year old Colts, all Work:*—“Linganore” 3 years, to A. J. Kimmell, 1st premium. *Best Jack:*—“Stromboli,” 6 years, to Wm. May, 1st premium.

For some of the premiums no stock was exhibited and in some cases no premiums were allowed because of the Horses and Colts not being sustained by proof as being thorough bred. Several were also ruled out for 2d premiums for the same reason. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. CAREY, Ch'n.

## FAST DRAFT AND SADDLE HORSES.

The Judges for Quick Draft and Saddle Horses, have the honor to report the following awards:—*Best Stallion* to F. Felton for “Paul Clifford;” 2d best to Wm. P. Howser for “Vermont Black Hawk;” *Best Brood Mare* to H. Carroll Jr., for “Belle;” 2d best to John Adams for “Jewel;” *Best Brood Mare for Saddle* to L. Lowndes for “Belle;” 2d best to R. R. Grogan, for “Minnie Grey;” *Best Horse Colt 3 years old:*—1st premium to F. Felton, for “Ticonderoga;” 2d best to R. L. Morgan, for “Young Black Hawk;” *Best Horse Colts two years old:*—1st premium to F. Felton, for “Young America;” 2d best to H. Carroll, Jr., for “Bay Morgan;” *Best Horse Colts under 1 year old:*—1st premium to H. B. Chew for “Rip Rap;” 2d best to John Adams, for “Harry;” *Best Sucking Colts:*—Premium to H. Carroll, Jr., for “Cable;” *Fililes 3 years old:*—1st premium to John Adams, for “Nell;” 2d to R. France for “Nelly;” *Fililes 2 years old:*—1st premium to L. Lowndes for Minnehaha;” 2d to John Adams, for “Fan;” *Sucking Fililes:*—Premium to John Adams, for “Hannah;” *Fastest pair of Matched*

**Horses**.—1st premium to A. H. Mann, for "Metamora" and "Nameokee;" 2d premium to G. W. Robinson, for "Midnight" and "Darkness."

The committee make no award for Stallions for Saddle purposes, those presented not coming within the standard required by the rules of the Society.

W. H. FRENCH, Maj. U. S. A.  
ODEN BOWIE.

#### HEAVY DRAFT HORSES.

We, the Committee, beg leave to make the following report:—

For best Stallion, to F. Langdon, \$20 for Duke Normandy—2d best to G. L. Scott, \$10 for Virginia Samson. For best Brood Mare, to Levy Hunt, \$20 for Nelly—2d best to Evan M. Price, \$10 for Dart. For best Horse Colt 1 year old to E. Scott, \$4 for Charley Valentine. For best Sucking Horse Colt, to H. B. Chew, \$4 for Arch. For best Filly 2 years old to E. Scott, \$8 for Fanny—2d best to E. M. Price, \$4 for Nelly.—For best Filly 1 year old to L. Hunt, \$4 for Flora Temple. For best pair Heavy Draft Horses to W. Matthews, \$6 for Mike and Coly.

DENNIS M. MATTHEWS, HENRY CARROLL,  
FRANKLIN BROOKS, A. RUTLEDGE,  
S. MONGAR.

#### TRIALS OF SPEED—First Day.

The Committee on trials of Speed for Tuesday, for fastest Mare or Gelding in Harness, beg leave to report that they have awarded the 1st premium, for Trotting to G. W. Robinson, of Baltimore, horse Midnight, \$20—2d premium to Hiram Ives, Baltimore City, Mountain Maid, \$10. For Pacing, 1st premium to Robinson Shenk, Pennsylvania, horse Stranger, \$20—2d premium to E. T. Brian, Washington County, Black Swan, \$10.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHD. JOHNS, Ch'm.

#### TRIAL OF SPEED—Second Day.

We the committee, do not consider the rate of speed shown by either of the horses as entitled to a first class premium, and we submit this report to the Executive Committee.

HENRY CARROLL, Jr., Ch'n.

#### TRIALS OF SPEED—Third day.

The committee on Trials of Speed for the third day, award to C. Cockey, 1st Premium, for Frank Pearce—H. D. Gelston, 2d premium, for Trustee.

DR. J. H. MURRAY, Ch'n.

#### TRIAL OF SPEED—Friday.

The Committee on Trial of Speed for this day, Friday, beg leave to report that they award the 1st premium of \$20 to Franklin Felton, for "Paul Clifford"—2d premium of \$12, to Saml. Lea, for Young Hawk.

The Committee desire to mention in complimentary terms "Young America," belonging to Mr. Morgan, of Harford County.

THOS. SHEPPARD, B. C. HOWARD,  
WILSON M. CAREY, ROBT. GILMOR.

#### POULTRY AND OTHER FOWLS.

The Committee on Poultry and other Birds, make the following awards:—

For best collection to J. Jacob Bower, \$20; second do to Clement Wafns, \$10.

**Discretionary Premiums.**—For collection of poultry, to Samuel S. Tucker, \$5; do to E. T. Elliott, \$3; do and Pigeons, to J. W. Oler, \$3; do to W. H. Oler, \$3; do to David F. Sunwalt, \$3; do and pigeons, to Clarence Moale, \$3; do Blue Macaw and other rare Birds, to J. Jacob Bower, \$5; do Imported Carriers, Turbits, etc., to J. Jacob Bower, \$3; do thorough Bred Game Fowls, to Jno. Merryman, \$3; do collection of 15 Capons to Samuel S. Tucker, \$3; do best lot of Brahmias or Grey Shanghais, to C. Warns, \$3; do Spanish Games, to W. H. Oler, \$2; do Black Polands, to J. W. Oler, \$2; do Golden Polands, to J. Jacob Bower, \$2; do Black Spanish, to J. Jacob Bower, \$2; do Silky Fowls, to J. Jacob Bower, \$2; do Bantams, to Jane Leshean, \$2; do lot of Mongrels (entered as "Bucks Co.") to Samuel Sutton, \$2; best Musk Ducks, to Clement Warns, \$2; 2d best do to Samuel Sutton, \$1; lot of common Ducks, to E. T. Elliot, \$2; Trio of Turkeys, to S. S. Tucker, \$2. Wm. Winchester, jr., J. Elery, Mrs. S. H. Moore, each \$2, for display of Poultry.

The committee earnestly recommend a more correct nomenclature to exhibitors, on all future occasions. The entry of hybrids under the name of some distinct variety is more calculated to mislead spectators, than to deceive the judges.

DAVID TAGGART,  
THOS. WOOD,  
GEO. MERRICK.

#### TOBACCO.

The Judges have awarded to Z. Howes for best sample of Tobacco, \$5; only one other sample exhibited, not worthy of notice.

FRANK COOKE, Chairman.

#### VEGETABLES.

For best 12 Long Blood Beets, to Mrs. Susan Loveday, \$1; do do 12 Turnips Beets, to Mrs. James Hooper, \$1; do do 3 heads Cauliflower, to Maj. Cockey, \$2; do do 3 heads Cabbage, to Maj. Cockey, \$1; do do Table Irish Potatoes, to S. N. Wright, \$1; do do 3 Pumpkins, to Capt. Baker, \$1; do do sample Dried Beans, to Mr. Sheasly, \$1; do do Sugar Beets, to Mrs. Jas. Hooper, \$1; do do Mangie Wurtzel, to Mrs. Jas. Hooper, \$1.

JAMES SPENCE,  
JOHN FEAST,  
H. M. WHITAKER.

#### IMPLEMENT—Class No. 1.

The Committee on Implements Class No. 1, respectfully report, that they have carefully examined the implements presented to them, and after a careful examination they award to Messrs. Sinclair & Co., for the best Plow, for Pea Vines, &c., premium of \$3; do best Clod Crusher and Roller combined, \$5; do best Plow for heavy sod, the "Pittsburg Plow," \$3; do do one horse light, \$2; do do Gang Plow, \$2; do do Sub Soil do, \$3. To A. G. Mott, Baltimore, for the best Hill Side Plow, \$3. To Sinclair & Co., for the best Cultivator, \$2; do best Tobacco Cultivator, \$2; do best implement for preparation of land for wheat, \$5. To Wm. Morrison, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for best Corn Planter, \$3. To Sayres & Remington, Utica, New York, for best Horse Hoe, \$3.

There were on exhibition by Sayres & Remington, several Cultivators, both for Corn and Tobac-

co, that for quality of material and finish of workmanship the Committee think superior to any of similar kind upon the grounds, but the great, and the Committee think unnecessary weight of the implements, constrained them to award the premiums to such implements as they thought most suitable for the purposes for which they are designed.

G. M. ELDREDGE,  
W. MITCHELL,  
SAM'L P. SMITH.

IMPLEMENT—Class No. 2.

The Committee on Agricultural Implements Class No. 2, respectfully report that they award to Steer & Schooly, for the best Broad Casting and Drilling Machine, with attachment \$10. For the best Broad Casting and Drilling Machine, to Willoughby & Black, \$5. For the best Spear Geared Sweep Horse Power to J. D. Linton, \$5. For the best Portable Railway Horse Power, to Thos. Norris, for Wheeler & Meelecks, \$2. For the best Threshing Machine for cleaning and separating Grain, to Thos. Norris, for Wheeler & Meelecks, \$10. For the best Threshing Machine, to J. D. Linton, \$5. For the best Separator and Straw Carrier, to W. W. Dingee, \$2. For the best Cauldron for Farm use, to R. Sinclair & Co., \$2.

JOHN H. LONGNECKER.  
SAM'L. PICKERING,  
SAM'L. S. EWING.

IMPLEMENT—Class No. 3.

Your Committee on Class No. 3, have to recommend that the premiums of the Society be awarded as follows:—

For the best Hay and Straw Cutter for Horse Power, to Cummings Patent, exhibited by G. B. Griffin, of Harrisburg, Pa. For the best Hay and Straw Cutter by hand, to Thos. Norris, of Baltimore. For the best Cane and Corn Stalk Cutter, Masticator and Straw Cutter combined, to G. B. Griffin. For the best Corn Sheller, for Horse Power, (the Reading Machine) to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co., of Baltimore. For the best Corn Sheller for hand power, to A. G. Mott, of Baltimore.

For the best Root Cutter and Grubber, for new ground, to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.

For the best Grist Mill, for farmer's use, to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.

For the best Sugar Cane Mill to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. For the best Corn and Cob Crusher, (Champion) to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.

The Committee have the pleasure to add that all the awards are to Machines of the first class. The excellent working of the numerous competing Hay, Straw and Corn Stalk Cutters, made it very difficult to discriminate.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. DUANE WILSON,  
JOSEPH MERRYMAN,  
S. WORLINGTON, JR.

IMPLEMENT—Class No. 4.

The committee on Class 4, of Implements, respectfully report, that they award the premium for the best Fanning Mill to J. Montgomery & Bro., of Baltimore. For the best Vegetable Cutter to Robert Sinclair, Jr. & Co. For the best Drill Barrow for root and other small crops to Robert Sinclair, Jr. & Co. For the best Churn to Cortian & Co., of Balt. For the best Seed

Cleaning Machine to Robt. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.—For best Cider Mill and Press to Robt. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. For best Road Scraper to Robt. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.

J. CARROLL WALSH,  
W. WILSON BYRN,  
J. M. JACOBS.

IMPLEMENT—Class No. 5.

The committee on Implements and Machinery, Class No. 5, beg leave to report, that they award to Alfred Matthews, for his Hay Fork, \$5; James O. Spear, for Fairbanks' Scales, \$2; Wm. Morrison, for Portable Farm Fence, \$3; Sinclair & Co. for Clover Gatherer, \$2; J. M. Burdick, for Sayres & Remington's polished Cultivator Teeth, \$3; Samuel Hills, for Gill's Hay Elevator, \$5; John Merryman, for his Ox Yoke, \$1.

Great difficulty was experienced by the committee in forming their judgment upon combined Reaping and Mowing Machines, as there was no suitable place for putting them in operation, where their full powers might be tested. Four of the machines finally were brought into the ring, and put into operation in the dead grass. After as fair a trial as under the circumstances could be had, the committee award to Manny's machine, with Woods' improvement, \$10; to the Buckeye machine, \$10; to Mott's Eagle machine, \$5.

Griscom & Boroughs exhibit a model of an Improved Perpetual Lime Kiln, which the committee consider well worthy of notice.

The committee commend F. S. McQuarter's Potato Planter, and award to it a discretionary premium of two dollars. They wish also to notice Routt's Patent Drain Plow, exhibited by R. D. Herndon, agent, which is, in their opinion, a very valuable implement for low and marshy land.

EDWARD A. HALL, Ch'n.

DAIRY AND HONEY.

For best specimen of Fresh Print Butter, not less than five pounds, to Miss Jane Mathews, \$3; 2d best to Josiah Edell & Sons, \$2. Best firkin or tub of Salted Butter, not less than six months old, \$3; 2d best \$2. Best Cream Cheese, not less than five pounds, \$2. Best ten pounds of Honey in the comb, (never saw better,) to E. Hoffman, \$2. Best Hive of Bees filled with Honey to D. McCallan.

J. HANSON THOMAS,  
E. G. DUVALL,  
JOSHUA JONES.

FRUITS.

The committee on Fruit report the award of the first premium for greatest variety of ripe Peaches to John Feast, \$3. First prem. for best specimen of Eating Grapes, (under glass,) to Johns Hopkins for Purple Damascus, \$2; 2d do. to the same, for Santa Croix.

J. HOWARD McHENRY, Ch'n.

AMERICAN WINES.

For best sample home made Cordial, to Mrs. Hooper, \$3; best home made Bounce, to Mrs. Hooper, \$3; best home made Wine, to Mrs. Col. Jacob Deems, \$3.

BENJ. C. HOWARD,  
ROBT. GILMOR.

BACON HAMS.

The Committee on Bacon Hams, beg leave to report as follows:

For the best Ham cured by exhibitor, Mrs. D. Brown, \$5; 2d best to J. H. McHenry, \$3.  
BENJ. C. HOWARD,  
ROBT. GILMOR.

#### HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES AND MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

The committee on this department beg to report the following awards:

For the best Quilt, to Mrs. E. Wilson, \$2; 2d best to Mrs. Fowler, \$1. Best Counterpane, to Mrs. Mary Done, \$2; 2d best, to Miss Emma Gormley, \$1. Best pair Home Made Blankets, to Mrs. E. R. Paiste, \$2. Best Home Made Carpet, to Mrs. Jos. H. Fuller, \$2. Best Shirt; to Miss M. Gill, \$2; 2d best, to Mrs. P. A. Russell, \$1. Best fine long Yarn Hose, to Mrs. Thos. Hooper, \$1. Best Home Made Soap, to Miss E. A. Pritchard, \$1. Best Home Made Bread, to Mrs. W. B. Duvall, \$2; 2d best, to Mrs. Chas. Finley, \$1. Best Pound Cake, to Mrs. Chas. Buchanan, \$2. Best Sponge Cake, to Mrs. Chas. Buchanan, \$2. Best Specimen of Pickles, to Mrs. W. B. Duvall, \$1. Best Preserves, to Mrs. J. T. Phillips, \$1. Best Fruit Jelly, to Mrs. Thos. Hooper, \$1. Best Embroidery, to Miss Julia Morton, \$1. Best Worsted Work, to Miss C. L. Davis, \$1. Best Crochet Work, to Mrs. A. D. Egerton, \$3. Best Net Worsted Work, to Miss M. R. Sewell, \$3.

W. H. MARRIOTT, for the Com.

#### MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

The Judges of the Household Manufactures awarded the following discretionary premiums, which were ordered to be increased to \$30, by Mr. Merriman:-

To Miss Virginia Tolson, for Quilt, \$1; Miss V. Evans, for Quilt, \$1; Mrs. Jno. Smith, for Counterpane, \$1; Mrs. A. Selby, for Shirt, \$1; Miss M. Day, (Blind Asylum,) for Hose, \$1; Moses Hyde, for Soap, \$1; Miss Alice Fendall, for Embroidered Infants Skirt, \$1; Miss E. E. Trego, for Embroideries, \$1; Mrs. McVay, for Worsted Work, \$1; Miss Anne Hooper, for Worsted and Chenille Work, \$1; Miss Alice Fendall, for Crochet Shawl, \$1; Miss E. C. Schable, for Wax Flowers, \$1; Miss Isabella Hower, for Shell Work, \$1; Miss Mary Martin, for Corn Bread, \$1; Miss Caroline Hadley, for Sponge Cake, \$1; Mrs. Ives, for Pound Cake, \$1; Miss R. Smith, for Jelly Sponge Cake, \$1; Miss Mary M. Hooper, for Biscuit, \$1; Miss Mary M. Hooper, for Sponge Cake, \$1; Mrs. Thos. Hooper, for Pickles, \$1; Miss Mary M. Hooper, for Sweet Potato Pie, \$1; Mrs. Thos. Hooper, for Brandied Peaches, \$1; Miss Mary M. Hooper, for Jelly Pound Cake, \$1; Mrs. S. E. Marriott, for Smoking Cap, \$1; Mrs. Lansstreet, for Preserves, \$1; Mrs. G. R. Wright, Tomato Catsup, \$1; Miss Keefer, for Embroidery, \$1; Miss Tumbleton, for Needle Work, \$1; Miss A. C. Slingluff, for Embroidery, \$1; Mrs. W. Baker, Glass Melon, \$1.

W. WESLEY CUNNINGHAM, Clerk.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NO. 2.

The committee on Miscellaneous Articles entered in the Household Department, having no money placed at its disposal, considers the Rustic Arbor, Settees and Chairs, exhibited by Cotter Bridge, of Baltimore, as worthy of a very favorable

notice, and recommend Mr. Bride as a maker of Rustic work. The Sewing Machine exhibited by Gröver & Baker, was represented to combine recent improvements of importance, and the old machine of these makers was well spoken of by ladies present who had used it. The Sash Balance exhibited by Ross Johnson, is also recommended. The Bells exhibited by Regester & Webb, of Baltimore, are distinguished by their fine tone.—The Bee Palace, exhibited by E. Hoffman, we were able to judge of by the quality of the honey which was highly commended by those who tasted it.—The Batter Machine, exhibited by Ellison Terby, looked like a useful invention, but could not be recommended without the test of actual experiment. Ground Bone, Phosphatic Fertilizers, exhibited by B. Jackson, and Superphosphate, exhibited by B. M. Rhodes & Co., can only be judged of by chemical analysis. The Thief Detector, exhibited by W. D. Wright, would doubtless be serviceable in many cases of attempted burglary. The New Rochelle Blackberry Roots, exhibited by A. Merritt, could not be critically judged of. Mr. E. H. Cogle, exhibits Self-Ventilating Milk Fans, an Old Dominion Coffee Pot, and a Schaler's Carpet Sweeper. Mr. Grupu exhibits Shoe Pegs and Sole Leather, of which the committee did not feel competent to judge. Respectfully,

J. HOWARD M'HENRY, Ch'n.

#### FLOWERS.

The committee on Flowers award to John Feast the first premium, \$10. Best collection of Dahlias to Wm. C. Wilson, \$8; 2d best to Capt. Fracht, \$6. Two baskets of Flowers; Miss Lizzie Feast, \$5. Floral Moss Wreath, Mrs. Mary J. Potee, \$2.50. Collection of Dahlias, Mrs. J. Thompson, \$2.50. Vase of Cut Flowers, Miss Mellisa Baker. LLOYD LOWNDES, Ch'n.

#### For the American Farmer.

#### ON CALIFORNIA OR ELIDE GUANO.

BY CAMPBELL MORFITT.

This Guano, recently introduced into commerce, is brought from Elide Island, in the Pacific Ocean, near the Gulf of California. In appearance it resembles ground, roasted coffee; but is intermixed, throughout, with vegetal debris, small white granules, and smooth, hard, black lumps, which soften when kneaded between the fingers. Its odor is peculiar—slightly pungent and ammoniacal but not offensive. The pulverulent portion of the guano, and which constitutes much the larger part of the whole, is sufficiently dry to be passed through a moderately fine sieve; but the remainder is always more or less damp, and becomes pasty under the pestle. When the guano is left in a bottle for a time, crystalline points appear throughout the mass.

Elide Guano assimilates in general character to Peruvian Guano, but has a distinctive feature in its greater uniformity of composition; while its proportion of ammonia falls several per cent below the average quantity in Peruvian Guano, it contains a higher ratio of Phosphoric Acid. This difference in the two guanos brings about that desirable quantitative relation between those prime components which will give to the Elide Guano a more permanent effect upon the soil and at the

same time maintain a high and adequate fertilizing energy. In addition, Potassa is always present and in quantity nearly equal to the average in Peruvian Guano.

These qualities in the Elide Guano must make for it an eminent agricultural value, and therefore the terms at which it deserves to be rated are higher than would be deduced in the usual way of estimating the money value of guano chiefly from its content of ammonia.

The following table presents the results of careful analyses which I have made of average samples of three separate cargoes, and consequently it will serve to show the average composition of this Guano.

It is proper to add, that of the whole amount of lime, only about one half per cent. is sulphate; most of the sulphuric acid being combined with ammonia. Another portion of ammonia is present as phosphate, but nearly the whole of the phosphoric acid exists in union with lime and magnesia as earthy phosphates. There is no oxalic acid as in Peruvian Guano.

Although the proportion of alkaline salts differs in the several cargoes, there is a remarkable uniformity in the quantity of potassa, soda being the variable constituent.

COMPONENTS.	Cargo of the		
	Sierra Nevada, N. Y. May, 1858	N. Y., June, 1858	Adelaide, the Empress, of the Sea, Baltic, Aug. 1858
Water,.....	24.80	27.20	22.68
Sand,.....	4.05	1.80	2.30
Organic Matter, insoluble " soluble	26.90	6.00	5.80
Uric Acid, with some Hu- mic Acid,.....	3.15	2.95	2.50
Yielding Ammonia, Chlorine,.....	(10.45)	(9.30)	(10.40)
Sulphuric Acid,.....	5.63	1.60	1.90
Phosphoric Acid, Equivalent to Earthy or Bone Phosphate,.....	15.18	4.20	5.20
Lime,.....	11.60	9.86	10.92
Magnesia,.....	1.42	1.17	1.46
Potassa,.....	2.53	2.30	1.84
Soda,.....	1.77	1.77	1.74
Making Alkaline Salt,	(7.60)	(4.80)	(2.80)
100.33	99.85	100.13	

NEW YORK, September, 1858.

STAMFORD, Connecticut, Oct. 11th. 1858.

**Messrs. Editors:**—Having a large quantity of the seeds of two most excellent varieties of melons: the mountain sweet water melon, and the green citron muskmelon, I will freely distribute the seeds to any of your readers who may wish to have them: subject to the conditions of sending a stamped envelope and the address.

WALTER R. SCOFIELD.

### GRAZING WHEAT WITH SHEEP.

AVENEL, FAUQUIER CO., VA., Oct. 6th, 1858.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

Dear Sir:—The extensive injury committed by the fly upon the wheat crop in this section for the last two or three years, and the consequent loss have caused the farmers to resort to every expedient they could devise to escape its ravages.—Some have resorted to various modes of preparing their seed; others to late sowing. By the first method, no protection seems to be afforded; by the second, the wheat escapes the fly in the fall to be destroyed by rust the next season.

I have hit upon a theory founded on observation, which, I intend putting into practice next spring. The thought that some of your readers might be induced to try the experiment, has caused me to send you this article. I will first state my observation, and then my theory: The late Col. Chowning of Lancaster Co., Va., who, besides his own estate, had the management of two or three others, was never known to fail in a crop of wheat. It was always his practice to graze his wheat fields with sheep in the spring. He turned on towards the last of February, and kept them on till about the 10th of March. This practice was the result of the experience of a long life. His fields, when the sheep were taken off, often presented a perfectly naked appearance; in addition to this uniform practice of Col. C., two or three accidental instances have come under my observation—where sheep have had the run of a wheat field during the winter, which afterwards produced a heavy crop. In one particular instance, a gentleman bought a farm for the purpose of grazing sheep. He moved there during the winter, and from want of proper enclosures, was compelled to let all of a large flock run in a field where about twenty acres had been seeded in wheat before he bought. He gave up the wheat, entirely, supposing it to be eaten and trampled out of existence.

When the spring came on, however, and he had fixed his enclosures, the sheep were turned into other pastures. In a short time, the wheat seemed "sortir du néant," grew off finely, and made the heaviest crop that had been made on that place for many years.

I come now to my theory founded on the above facts. The fly deposits its egg or grub, on the main stalk of the wheat near the ground. It is incapable of motion while in that state. In the spring, when the wheat begins to grow, this grub feeds upon the sap, and not only destroys the main stalk, but so cripples and exhausts the plant that it cannot throw off branches with sufficient vigor to make good wheat; but grows up edgy. Now the sheep being put on the wheat before it begins to grow, they will graze down the stalk to where the egg or grub is deposited, and destroy it. The sheep having killed the fly-grub, must be taken off before the wheat begins to grow. When that time arrives, the grub not being there to consume the sap, the plant throws out vigorous branches without hindrance, and they grow up to good stalks.

Such is my theory. Whether there is any truth in it, remains to be seen. I intend to try it next spring, and hope some of your readers may do the same. What do you think of it, Mr. Editor? In hopes that you, or some one else, may find out "quid faciat lötas segetes."

I am yours, truly, AGRICOLA.  
We think well of it, and hope it will be tried.—EDS.

## MEADOW SOFT GRASS—MANUFACTURED MANURES.

September 20th, 1858.

*To the Editors of the American Farmer:*

**Gentlemen:**—I send you a bunch of grass, and want to know if it is in cultivation; if so, by what name. I find it growing in the lower part of Somerset county, very sparingly scattered along the fences. I have gathered some of the seed, and intend to sow them this fall; if you think it worth a trial, let me know it. I also want to know how it will answer to apply bone dust as a top dressing to wheat, and what quantity per acre. Also, is it necessary to prepare it in any way before sowing. *Will it pay?*

I see recommended from good authority, those manufactured things called manures, but have yet to hear of the first instance, where the farmer who has tried them, is willing to buy again. I have made inquiry of every farmer that has bought of them in this section, and they all pronounce them a humbug.

I will give you one instance of their failures. In the spring of 1857, a neighbour of mine applied four tons of De Burg to a field that he wished to get in grass, seeded it in oats and grass, the grass has not yet made its appearance, and the oat crop a total failure, for the gentleman told me that they were not a particle better where it was applied than where there was none. The grass that I send you keeps green through winter, and I believe it will stand the cold as long as wheat.— The first notice that I took of it, and the cause was the sheep pawing in the snow after it. I am not offering it as a second rescue grass, nor to add to the many humbugs already in vogue; for if any of your correspondents would like to give it a trial, I will send them some of the seed.

Yours respectfully, **SOMERSET.**

We have received the specimen of grass referred to in the communication above and in reply to our correspondent inform him that the plant sent us is the "Velvet Grass," or as it is also called, the "Meadow Soft Grass," and is known botanically as the "Holcus Lenatus." It is possible that, owing to its remaining green during the winter, as stated by our correspondent, it may be of some use as forage plant in Somerset and other Southern counties of this State and of Virginia, though it is generally esteemed of little value for such purpose. Bone dust is applied usually at the rate of ten bushels to the acre, and in some sections is very highly prized by those who use it. In other localities however it has not been used with success. It is better therefore to try it first on a limited scale. It may be sown on the surface, though a slight mixing with the soil is better, and finely ground, as it should be, need not be previously prepared. As to De Burg and all other such mixtures, there is no question, that their success has been very variable; with some they have succeeded well, and with others very signally failed. We furnish our readers as far as we can with the testimony on these points, but cannot undertake to judge for them in any particular case

or locality. Our own practice is to make a trial on a small scale, of such of them as we find best recommended, and as they appear likely to answer, to be governed by the probability of getting a well prepared and honestly manufactured article.—*Eds.*

We comply, with pleasure, with the request contained in the note of our correspondent, E. L. F. Hardeastle, Esq., by inserting his communication below.—*Eds.*

**ROYAL OAK, Talbot Co., Md., }**  
October 21st, 1858. }

*To the Editors of the American Farmer:*

**Sims:**—I am directed to request the publication of the following Resolutions of our Society, in the "American Farmer"—if the same are deemed by you of sufficient general interest to publish without charge, viz:

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Agricultural Society for the Eastern Shore, held at "Wye Cottage" on the 30th September ultimo, the following Resolutions were adopted:

**Resolved,** As the opinion of this Board, that the operation of the present Grain Inspection Law of the State is beneficial to the interest of the farmer, and we therefore advise the said law to be sustained.

**Resolved** further, as the judgment of the Board that, if the said Law be generally sustained by those who sell grain in the Baltimore market, our next State Legislature will be justified in greatly reducing the present costs of Grain Inspection.

M. T. GOLDSBOROUGH, Pres't.

E. L. F. HARDEASTLE, Sec'y.

**CORRECTION.**—We have received the following note from D. W. Naill, Esq., in relation to his communication contained in the Farmer for October, and call the attention of our subscribers to his request:—

**Mr. Editor:**—In my communication in relation to garlic in your last number, the word "hopper" after "windmill," should have been "chopped." I hope your subscribers will make the correction with the pen, as it is important.

Respectfully yours, **D. W. NAILL.**  
23d October, 1858.

We have received from Ross Johnson, Esq., a beautiful model of his very ingenious and most useful invention for "Hanging and Balancing Window Sash," which we have placed upon our table for the examination of friends and subscribers, and of all others curious in such matters. This invention supplies a want frequently felt by many; not only by those who desire to economise and improve in the construction of new houses, but especially by such as desire to introduce the balance sash into old buildings; which last operation can be performed in the mode adopted by Mr. Johnson, without derangement or injury to the walls. We can with great cheerfulness and sincerity recommend this contrivance to the consideration and use of all interested in building.

# AMERICAN FARMER.

Baltimore, November 1, 1858.

## TERMS OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Per Annum, \$1 in advance—6 copies for \$5—13 copies for \$10—30 copies for \$20.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—For 1 square of 8 lines, for each insertion, \$1—1 square per annum, \$10—larger advertisements in proportion—for a page, \$100 per annum; a single insertion, \$15, and \$12 50 for each subsequent insertion, not exceeding five.

Address,

N. B. WORTHINGTON,  
Publisher of the "American Farmer,"

CARROLL HALL, on the South-east corner of Baltimore and Calvert streets, Baltimore.

## SEA-BOARD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

We call attention to the advertisement of the Annual Fair of this Society in our advertising columns. We understand that the Norfolk Fair of last Fall, was pronounced by those who visited them all the most successful held in Maryland, Virginia or North Carolina; and the prospect for a large and full display is, we learn, more favorable this season than last. We heartily commend this spirited and useful Society to the support of our readers in that quarter, and to the exhibitors of stock and machinery. Farmers and planters should, especially make it their business to second the efforts of the managers by their presence, and by contribution to the support of the Society. They do not sufficiently appreciate the great value of these exhibitions in giving stimulus to agricultural improvement, and in developing the resources of the country.

We acknowledge the receipt of a card of invitation from the President to attend the Fair, and anticipate the pleasure of meeting there many subscribers and friends of the *American Farmer*.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Election of Officers of the Maryland Agricultural Society, took place at the regular meeting of the Society, on Thursday night, 21st October.

Mr. Ramsay McHenry, in a few remarks highly complimentary to the energy and success with which the duties of the office of President had been performed by Mr. Merryman, nominated that gentleman for re-election. Mr. McHenry put the question, and Mr. Merryman was re-elected by acclamation.

On taking the chair, Mr. Merryman addressed the Society in a short, but very appropriate address, returning thanks for the compliment paid him, and acknowledging in strong terms, the very efficient assistance rendered him by the Executive Committee.

Dr. Wharton nominated as Vice Presidents, Cu-

rators and Corresponding Secretary, the gentlemen whose names will be found among the proceedings of the Society.

These officers, with the President, constitute the Executive Committee of the Society, elect the other officers, and transact the business of the Society generally.

## NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Our thanks are due to very many friends for the interest they take in forwarding us new subscribers. We have our acknowledgements now to make to R. W. Swann, Esq. of Amherst county, Va. J. H. Boughan, Esq. of Culpepper county, Va. and to Wm. Richardson, Esq., and other gentlemen of the Frederick county, Md. Agricultural Society.

We are under especial obligations, however, to George R. Dennis, Esq. who, notwithstanding his constant duties as a member of the Executive Committee, found time, during two or three days of the Exhibition at Frederick, to add some sixty new subscribers to our list.

Our friends of Washington county, promise us likewise, many new names from that county.

We are making it our business by personal intercourse with Farmers to enlist more generally their sympathies in behalf of a Magazine which is devoted exclusively to agricultural interests. Much the greater portion of our subscription list is outside of Maryland, where we come in direct competition with other excellent Journals of the same character. Here where we occupy the entire ground we ought to have the name of every farmer of the State upon our books.

They owe it to themselves to sustain their own paper, and if each subscriber would remind his neighbor of the duty, we are confident we should shortly have much larger additions than those already received.

The members of *The Executive Committee of Maryland Agricultural Society*, will find in the present No. of the Farmer, an advertisement calling them to meet in Baltimore, on Tuesday, December 7th, to elect certain officers. This meeting will be an important one to the interests of the Society, for the question will then be entertained, whether the Annual Fair and Cattle Show shall continue to be held at some place in Baltimore County, or whether such place shall be selected for that purpose, alternately with some other counties, so that all portions of the State may, as far as possible, become, each in their turn, immediate participants in the advantages of the Exhibition. This plan has been found very successful in other States, and it is believed by many, would be found of signal advantage in Maryland; would give the Agricultural Society a great accession of popularity and of members, and add largely to its usefulness and to its treasury. It has been proposed that a Fair should be held one year at Frederick, upon the grounds now used by the

Frederick County Agricultural Society, the next at Elkin, or at Cambridge, on the Eastern Shore, the next upon the beautiful grounds of the Montgomery County Society, or some other place on the Western Shore, and so alternating, as might be found advantageous, and then returning, in due course, to such place in Baltimore County or Anne Arundel County, in the vicinity of the city of Baltimore, as might be selected.

#### MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The full proceedings of the annual sessions of the Maryland State Agricultural Society, and their reports of the several committees, and their awards will be found in our pages. We give these as matters worthy of record to the exclusion of much other valuable matter prepared for this month's issue. While our limits do not allow us to make particular notice of a large number of very interesting articles on exhibition, we are obliged to apologize to our readers generally, that so much room is taken up by these reports.

The exhibition, though not in all respects equal to some that have preceded it, was a very good one; and as regards the finances of the Society, a successful one—leaving, we have reason to think, a handsome surplus after paying all expenses.

The show of Devon Cattle was an unusually fine one: There were upwards of ninety head entered, embracing portions of the herds of Messrs. Patterson, J. H. McHenry, Oden Bowie, Brown, Strandburg, S. M. Lee, James Mulliken, S. N. Wright, Blunt, Worthington, Holcomb, of Delaware, J. N. Blakeslie, of Ct., and several others who exhibited one or two animals each.

Messrs. William C. Wilson, C. Ridgely, of Hampton, and J. Howard McHenry were the principal exhibitors of Alderneys, and represented admirably this valuable breed.

Mr. Clement Hill made, as usual, a handsome show of his noble herd of Durhams. Mr. Brooks, of Balt. Co., had some good animals, and Mr. T. H. Gary, of Anne Arundel county, exhibited a handsome young Bull and Heifers.

Ayrshires were exhibited by Mr. G. W. Lurman, Dr. G. W. Lawrence, and Dr. N. R. Smith.

Mr. Merryman exhibited thorough-bred Herefords and Grades. Mr. Sutton, Holsteins and Grades.

Of Sheep, South Downs were exhibited by J. H. McHenry, Charles B. Calvert, Col. Richard France, D. M. Matthews, George Rose, John Jones, of Steelville, Pa.

Messrs. Merryman, Stirling Thomas & Sons, and S. S. Bradford, of Culpepper Co., Va., exhibited pens of Mixed Wool.

Col. Ware and Henry Carroll, Esq. exhibited some very superior Cotswold Sheep.

Mr. S. S. Bradford had imported fine Wool Sheep of very superior quality.

Col. Richard France and Mr. George S. Porter, exhibited Angora Goats.

Mr. Thomas Wood, of Chester Co., Pa., Clement Warns, T. J. Taylor and others exhibited many fine Chesters and crosses of that breed.—There were a few good Essex by Mr. Calvert, and some China crosses.

There were many fine Horses on exhibition the trial of speed daily, excited, as usual, much interest.

Among the exhibitors were H. Carroll, Jr., Balt. Messrs. Luke Tiernan Brien, of Washington Co., T. B. Preston, of Frederick Co., Dr. Charles W. Stockett, of Anne Arundel Co., R. G. Gittings, of Balt. Co., Col. France, of Baltimore, E. Lloyd, Jr., C. H. Martin, Talbot Co.; B. G. Buck, Baltimore, R. Shenk, Lancaster, Pa., G. E. Williams, Washington Co., Evan M. Pue, E. T. Elliott, Balt. R. R. Gaggan, Balt. Co., S. T. Lee, Balt., N. Howard, Balt. Co., L. P. Ellison, Cecil Co., W. Sanderson, Washington Co.

The reports of committees will show the result of the competition between the numerous fine animals exhibited.

#### *Agricultural Implements.*

In this very important department of the exhibition, there was not so large a display as we have had on other occasions, but very numerous contributors and a large number of valuable articles. Of those present were Messrs. Sinclair & Co., George Page & Co., Thomas Norris, A. G. Mott, G. E. Chenoweth, Wells & Matthews, J. D. Linton, W. O. Hickok, of Harrisburg, Hughes & Sawers, Balt., Merick Morgan, Lancaster, Pa., Wm. Morison, Carlisle, Pa., C. Aultman & Co., Canton, Ohio, Dudley & Holmes, Detroit, J. M. Burdick, for Sayre, Utica, N. York, Samuel Lipincott, A. D. Harland, Coatsville, Pa., H. McWharton, Smyrna, Del.

The Household Department was as heretofore, in charge of Mr. John Feast, Florist, and exhibited many articles worthy of note, but which we cannot now enumerate. So in the department of Poultry and Birds, the exhibition was a very interesting one.

Mr. Denton Outfit, the Horse Tamer, exhibited his powers in subduing, as if by magic, wild and vicious horses.

A large concourse of persons was on the ground during several days of the Show, and perfect order prevailed. Numerous visitors were present from distant parts of the country. The occasion was a pleasant re-union of the farmers of the State, and on the whole, will contribute quite as much as any preceding Exhibition to the marked progress which is apparent every where in agricultural improvement.

## FREDERICK COUNTY (MD.) FAIR.

We had the pleasure during the past month of being present at the Fair held at the City of Frederick by the Frederick County Agricultural Society. The weather, during a portion of the time, was, in consequence of the rain, unfavorable to the exhibition, but subsequently became all that could be desired, and the grounds around the Barracks were filled with crowds from the City and the surrounding country; and among them we noticed some faces fair as "e'er our fancies coped withal." The spot selected was admirably chosen, being that used during the war of the Revolution as a military post, and where the Hessians and other prisoners were detained, commanding a beautiful view of the highly cultivated farms that cover the valley in which Frederick is situated, and the lofty mountains that encompass it. The flag floating from the staff in the centre of the ancient parade, the military Band, and the venerable stone Barracks, recalled vividly the warlike memories of the past; whilst the peaceful purposes and harmless uses to which the present had applied them, showed how truly the sword had been beaten into the plough-share.

The Stock exhibited contained some very good specimens of Short Horns and Devons, but of Alderneys and Herefords, we saw none. Of Ayshires, we noticed one only, a very pretty cow, exhibited by Colonel Edward Shriver. There were quite a number of excellent grades, one of these, a cow six years old, and exhibited by Colonel Shriver, has been giving milk for twenty months consecutively, and now continues to give three gallons daily. Daniel Mayhart exhibited a well grown 2 years old Devon Bull and four fine Devon yearlings. A full blooded Devon cow, raised by Mr. Patterson, was exhibited by George R. Dennis, Esq., and a Devon Bull, raised by the same well known breeder of Devons, was shown by E. M. Thomas. Of Devons, there were also exhibited—a Devon Bull, Cow, and 2 Heifers—all good—by Abraham Kemp. Devon Heifer, by David Boyd, and Bulls, by Jacob M. Buckey and L. G. Kemp. A Short Horn Bull, bred by C. B. Calvert, was exhibited by George R. Dennis. Of Short Horns, there were, also, exhibited—a fine 3 years old Cow and her calf by Cornelius Staley, a Cow by Joseph Routhahn, a Bull, raised by Remington, of Philadelphia, and exhibited by William Richardson, and Heifers by E. M. Thomas, and by W. Buck, and some very good by John Loats. Grades were exhibited by C. Staley, by Jacob Walker, by Jonathan H. Staley, by L. G. Kemp, by W. T. Preston, by John Myers, by Daniel Ellis, by G. A. Brady, and James V. Moore. Working Oxen by Wm. Richardson and D. Getzendorfer.

Of Horses, though there were some fine animals, the display was not very remarkable.—The fine Messenger Stallion exhibited by Jacob M. Buckey was much admired, as were also the young Black Hawk Stallion "Linganore," owned by A. Z. Kimmell, a Black Hawk Stallion by A. J. Tabler, and a thorough-bred Stallion exhibited by Thomas R. Johnson: other quick draught stallions were shown by John H. Glaze, Wm. Brubaker, and D. Weaver. Of Horses for heavy draught, Thomas Cockerill exhibited a handsome black Stallion; Jacob Falk, a Stallion by Defiance, out of a Snap mare. J. V. Moore, a sorrel Stallion; George R. Dennis, a Colt, 2 years old, by the grey imported Percheron Stallion belonging to Charles Carroll, Esq., of Howard County; Jacob Lewis, a Colt; J. S. Gladhill and others were, also, exhibitors in this class. A bay mare, six years old, sired by Trustee, raised in New York, and exhibited by Wm. S. Reese, of Baltimore, had many admirers. We saw no mules nor jacks nor jennies on exhibition.

Of Sheep, the exhibitors were D. A. Hedges, whose Southdowns were very good, and a ewe with three lambs, all nearly full grown, particularly remarkable. C. Staley, a Ram of mixed wool, probably the heaviest on the ground; also, lambs of mixed wool. G. R. Dennis, Ram and Ewes, mixed wool. J. V. Moore, Cotswold bucks and ewes and buck lambs of the same breed.—Jacob Nickel, a Southdown buck; Wm. Richardson, several mixed wool, fat sheep; 3 mixed wool by G. W. Dean.

Of Swine, there were exhibited a Parkinson and China Sow and pigs by W. T. Preston; a very large 2 years old Chester Boar by J. W. Clem; a Berkshire, and an Irish Grazier sow by Jos. A. Fleming; a Suffolk boar by John Loats; a Berkshire boar, and Sow and pigs of same breed by D. Kolb; other animals in this class were exhibited by W. Dean, J. A. Fleming, T. Schultz, Joshua Dill, and others.

There was not a large exhibition of poultry, though there were some fine birds. Jacob M. Boyer exhibited coops of Seabright Bantams, Frizzled Chinas, Shanghais, Bramas, and one of Spanish horned fowls, the cock having two distinct cornuted appendages. F. Oland, Bramas and Shanghais. D. Derr, Cochin Chinas and Chittagongs. J. Robinson, Bramas. Dr. J. J. Moran, Javas, Dorkings and Cochin Chinas and Shanghais. W. Richardson, Bantams and Javas. G. Bantz, Dorkings. J. M. Wall, Game. J. Loats, Bramas. Miss E. Phebus, Shanghais, Jersey Blues and Cochin Chinas. Miss L. Phebus, Seabright Bantams. Bremen Geese, Poland Ducks, Guinea fowls, and Turkeys, were shown by other exhibitors.

*Vegetables* were exhibited in great variety by

Mrs. Geo. R. Dennis. Very fine Honolulu squash by Wm. Richardson. Very fine sweet potatoes and other vegetables by Dr. J. J. Moran. White mercer potatoes by John Derr. Fine white wheat by Samuel Hargett and others; and many excellent specimens of maize by various parties. Hungarian Grass Seed by Jacob Walker, and Buckwheat by J. Lewis.

Tobacco (*Leaf*) was exhibited by D. F. Jones, James S. Lea, John A. Creamer, T. O. Dixon and J. T. Williams.

Of the products of the Dairy the show was large and most excellent, and the two first premiums for butter were carried off by Mr. Staley and by Geo. R. Dennis, though in point of excellence there were some competitors whose butter was almost equal to theirs, and the judges had some difficulty in deciding. The Household department was very creditably supplied; the hams, of which about twenty were exhibited, being some of them, as we personally ascertained by tasting, of the first quality. Preserves, pickles, and native home-made wines in considerable quantities. Of Fruit, owing to the unfavorable season, there were hardly any, a few good looking Catawba grapes, however, we noticed. The skill of the fair ladies of Frederick was abundantly shown in the numerous specimens of needle-work exhibited.

Of Agricultural Implements and Machinery the largest exhibitors were Mr. Calvin Page, of the Eagle Iron Works of Frederick, and Messrs Doub & Young, of the same place. The first named, exhibited McCormick's 2 Horse Reaper, Dorsey's Self-Raking Reaper, Barrell's Thresher, Pelton's Triple Gear Power and Thresher, Bantz & Andrews' Corn and Cob Grinder, Reynold's Subsoil Plough, Ogle's Improved Plough, with patent spring Clevis to Beam—this plough was somewhat a novelty—the spring Clevis being intended to relieve the horses from the jar that usually accompanies the striking of the plough point against a stone or root—Bickford & Huffman's Drill, besides much other machinery and many implements, almost all of which were of the manufacture of Mr. Page. Messrs. Doub & Young, of the Vulcan Works, (Frederick) exhibited their own Thresher, their Drill, with Henson & Rohr's patent attachment, Strause (of Boonsboro, Md.) Corn and Cob crusher, their own Steel Plough, the Michigan Double Plough, and various other implements.

We were shown by Mr. Doub, the model of what will be found, as far as we could judge from the cursory examination we were enabled to make, the most simple and ingenious self-raking attachment to a Reaping Machine of all those yet invented. We have been promised a copy of this model, which we shall have on exhibition at our

office. We observed Mr. Montgomery, of Baltimore, on the ground, with his much approved Rockaway Fans, a machine that never fails to bring around it a crowd of admirers at every Agricultural exhibition.

The last day of the fair was signalled by a Tournament, in which various champions contested, and the victor was Henry Dunlop, Esq.—An address was made to the successful knight by Ulysses Hobbs, Esq., and the ceremonies usual on such occasions performed. Our space does not permit the publication of the list of premiums awarded at this very successful fair, which was made additionally attractive by the delivery of the annual address by Col. George W. Hughes, of Anne Arundel County. This address was much admired for its graceful diction, and the broad and comprehensive view of his topic taken by the eloquent orator. C. B. Calvert, Esq., Ex-President of the State Agricultural Society, made a most admirable address in behalf of the State Agricultural College, urging its claims with that earnestness and force, which the high importance of the enterprise to the whole farming interest so well justifies; and incidentally paid sundry flattering compliments to the American Farmer, which our modesty forbids us more particularly to mention. We congratulate the President and Officers of the Frederick County Agricultural Society on the happy result of their Exhibition, and hope we may witness one even more successful at their next anniversary. To Messrs. Dennis, Shriner, Adams, Richardson, Johnson, Kimmel, Ross, Hobbs, and other friends, we are indebted for many kind attentions.

#### WASHINGTON CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We had the good fortune to be able to spend one day at the annual Exhibition of the Washington County Agricultural Society, and would have prolonged our visit, but for our engagement at Frederick—the Exhibitions of the two counties occurring at the same time.

We are not able to give a detailed account of the Exhibition, which was one of the best County Shows we have seen, and largely attended.

Among the exhibitors of Stock, were Dr. T. Mad-dox, Luke Tiernan Brien, Esq., Messrs. Andrew, David, and H. E. Brumbaugh, J. Scott Kennedy, Esq., the Messrs. Fiery, Mr. F. R. Ziegler, Mr. Andrew Rench, Messrs. J. W. Miller, Martin Grumert, D. M. Good, George F. Heyser, W. D. McCardle, J. Extine, J. H. Heyser and others.

There was a very good show, also, in the Household Department, and that of agricultural productions. The show of Implements was not very extensive, but there were numerous articles of interest and merit in this line.

The Messrs. Heyser are taking much interest in the grape culture. Mr. George F. Heyser exhibited bottles of Catawba, of several vintages, and of excellent quality. We were politely invited by the Wine Committee, Messrs. Schley, Weisel and Motter, to join them in tasting the several specimens submitted to their judgment. The premium bottle, and indeed several others, were genuine samples of a perfectly pure Catawba wine. We will not risk our credit with connoisseurs by comparing them with the Johannesberger or Rudesheimer, which graced the board of Mr. Roman on the same day, but we are sure it would require more discrimination than the unsophisticated are possessed of, to determine the relative value of the Catawba and the Rhine wines. Dr. Harvey, of Hagerstown, is an enthusiastic grape grower, and is collecting native varieties, and cultivating them with much care and interest.

Mr. Calvert addressed a large and much interested audience, on the subject of the Agricultural College, and on the following day, Hon. Charles J. Faulkner delivered the annual address, which it was not our good fortune to hear.

Our visit to Hagerstown, though short, was a very gratifying one. We saw much that was worth seeing, made many agreeable acquaintances, and met nothing to find fault with, but the old-fashioned contrivance for getting there. Our friends are so well satisfied with their "happy valley," that they will not allow outsiders easy access, nor themselves facilities for getting away. We acknowledge with great pleasure the cordial hospitality extended to us by the Hon. J. Dixon Roman, and confess that if the methods of locomotion make it difficult to get away from Hagerstown, there is at least little hardship in being obliged to tarry there.

#### NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

*Patent Office Report for 1857, 3 vols., Mechanics.*—We have received this portion, being all that has yet appeared, of the Report for '57; and from the cursory examination we have been able to make, find it quite equal to any of those of former years, and in typography and engraving, superior to some of its predecessors.

*Hand Book of Fruit Culture, by Thomas Gregg.*—We have been favored by the publishers, Messrs. Fowler & Wells, 308 Broadway, N. Y., with a copy of this well written little book. It does not profess to contain much that is original, but comprises a good deal of useful information, compiled in a small and convenient form, suitable for those whose time or means do not permit them to read or purchase the more elaborate treatises. The price, 50 cents in muslin, or 30 cents in paper, places it within the reach of every one, and the neat and handsome style in which it is pub-

lished, renders it externally, an ornament to the table or the shelf.

*The Dudley Observatory and the Scientific Council—Statement of the Trustees.*—We do not know to whom we are indebted for a copy of this controversial document; but, so far as we can ascertain, the Trustees seem to have the best of it in the dispute, of which the volume before us professes to be a narrative.

*Milch Cows and Dairy Farming.*—This new and valuable work by Charles L. Flint, Esq. Secretary to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, and which we announced in our last number, as about soon to appear, was published during the past month, by A. O. Moore, of New York. The accomplished author, whose personal acquaintance we have since had the pleasure to make, has very kindly presented us with a copy of his exceedingly interesting work; but the pressure of our engagements has been such, and the calls upon our time so frequent, in consequence of our State Fair here and the Fairs at other places, that we have felt it our duty to attend, that we have not had any opportunity to give this book the careful examination and review, that, a casual glance has satisfied us, its merits and the importance of the subjects of which it treats deserve. We are therefore compelled, though reluctantly, to defer to our next number that consideration of Mr. Flint's work which we design to give it.

#### FAIR OF THE YORK CO. (PA.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We have never visited a Fair held by a County Society at which we have witnessed better arrangements, and more uniformly excellent order observed, in every particular, than we had the pleasure and satisfaction of seeing at the late Fair of the Agricultural Society of the industrious and thriving County of York, in Pennsylvania. Those having the affairs of the Society in charge seemed, judging by the evidences around us, to be most excellent managers. The grounds we were informed were the property of the Society, had been purchased at a cost of \$15,000—and were all paid for; and the only debt due by the Society was a comparatively small amount, being a balance yet remaining unpaid for the buildings erected for the purposes of the annual Fairs. Few Societies of a similar character, we imagine, could make so pleasing an exhibit of the condition of their finances. The situation of the Fair grounds is beautiful, and commands a most extensive view of the surrounding hills that bound the fertile valley of the Codorus, being upon one of the most elevated spots within the ancient Borough, and close to the Reservoir which supplies water to the town and furnished it on this occasion to fountains within the enclosures of the Society. No tents containing 3 legged

monsters, or any similar exhibitions were permitted upon the grounds. The trotting course was sufficient to exhibit the animals, but was not allowed to occupy the space so largely accorded such courses at many other Fairs, to the interference with more important and legitimate objects of agricultural interest. All the buildings and sheds are of recent construction, and in excellent condition. The Floral Hall is cruciform, built in a semi-Gothic style and having a Pavillion accessible by a winding stairway on the exterior. Two bands of music were in attendance upon covered stands placed some distance apart, and played alternately. The judges stand, at the Trotting course, was a pretty octagonal pagoda-like structure. A large shed was provided for protection from the weather of such implements and machinery as required it. The arrangement requiring all who visited the Floral Hall to enter a door in the end of one of the arms of the cross and to make the entire circuit of the building by way of the other arms, and then to find their egress at another door near that of entrance, was admirable, and prevented all confusion. Each table in this hall, was separated from the spectators by a rail, leaving a space between it and the edge of the table, in which space a policeman walked up and down, and prevented all handling or pilfering of articles on exhibition. In fact, there was a great deal in the manner in which this county fair was conducted, that the managers of many of the State Fairs would do well to imitate.

The Cattle exhibited were chiefly Durhams and Devons. Of the former, the exhibitors whose stock we particularly noticed, were Col. J. S. Haldeaman, of York county, Herman Hoke, of Mauchester, A. Hay, of Philadelphia, and John Evans, of York Co. The herd of the last named gentleman was particularly numerous, and contained some uncommonly fine animals, the Bull "Rover" was especially noticeable. Of Devons, we noticed those of J. B. Rutter, of Manchester, of A. Smyser, and of John Brittinger, both of the same place. The show of Horses, particularly in the class of "Heavy Draft," was very good, some of them almost elephantine in their proportions, particularly the stallions of the Cobham breed. We noticed a very beautiful Ticonderoga Black Hawk Stallion, exhibited by P. A. Small. There were but few Sheep or Swine on the grounds. George Eyster, of West Manchester, exhibited a few of the Dishley, and some of the Southdown breed; Herman Hoke also exhibited some of the Dishley breed. Col. J. S. Haldeaman exhibited Southdowns.

Poultry were exhibited in large numbers, Shanghai, Bantam, Creole, Dominica, Game, Brama, Black Spanish, Sumatra Chickens, and a number of Geese, Turkeys, and Ducks, besides a most curious fowl, said to be a cross between the Pheasant and the Guinea fowl. It certainly partook of the appearance of both, having the plumage and shape of the Pheasant, but being twice the size of that bird, yet having the head and cry of the Guinea fowl.

Owing to the unfavorable season, there was not a large display of fruit, but what was on exhibition, was, some of it very fine, particularly the grapes. Of Pears, V. K. Keasy exhibited d'Angouleme, Doyeans Blanc, and Winter Nellis, B. H. Weiser, Louisa Bonne de Jersey, Miss Chalfant, Urbaniste, Mrs. Bardwell, d'Angouleme and Goulie Morgeau, E. Chapin, Columbia, St. Germain, Easter Bourré,

Goulie Morgeau, Dix, Seckel, and d'Aremberg.—Of Grapes, E. Chapin exhibited, Concord, Isabella, Catawba, Black Prince, York Madeira (so called,) and fine Black Hamburg, raised in the open air. He also exhibited a handsome specimen of the Royal Muscadine, raised in the open air, at Elmira, New York, by Robert Covell. Very fine Catawbas were exhibited by Henry Zeigler, by John Hunter, and by John Becker. S. Small exhibited handsome specimens from his grapey, of Black Hamburg, White Chasselas, and Sweet Water. B. H. Weiser, Black Prince, Catawba, and Isabella. The floral display was not large, though some of the cut flowers were extremely beautiful. The Verbenas exhibited by Miss Amanda C. Fahs we have rarely seen equalled, nor have we ever seen any exhibited in a manner so ingenious and effective. A cone of tin, about four feet high, having little strips of metal soldered to its side from base to apex, placed horizontally, so as to form little shallow gutters containing sufficient water to keep the flowers fresh, was entirely covered with the most brilliant coloured verbenas, arranged in varied figures, circular and spiral. The base rested upon a deep wreath of ivy. The tin was entirely concealed, and the whole appeared one mass of rich and variegated bloom.

Of Vegetables, the display was good, though not so large as so enterprising an agricultural region as York County should have made. Those, however, exhibited by J. C. Luitewiler would have done credit to any exhibition. We had the pleasure of examining the nurseries just commenced by this gentleman, about 3 miles from York, and regret that the crowded state of our pages for this month does not permit us to give an account of our very interesting visit to his establishment, and to the farm of Mr. Evans, (President of the Society,) on which it is situated. Our next number, however, will enable us to supply this omission. The white Egg-Plants of the size of large hen's eggs, and some as large as goose eggs, exhibited by E. Hoke, excited a good deal of notice, and some of them brought by us from the Fair, and placed in a little box containing hay, in our office, have deceived almost all our visitors, and we believe would impose upon the sagacity of the gallinaceous old bird herself. We noticed specimens of Connecticut Leaf Tobacco, raised by C. C. Burg, of New Windsor, and of Havana, and of Pennsylvania Seed, by the same.

The show of Machines and Implements was large and highly creditable to the skill and ingenuity of the mechanics of York. Our friends, W. W. Dingee & Co., were among the largest exhibitors of agricultural machinery. We visited their establishment, in company with one of the firm, and were surprised to find how largely they are engaged in the manufacture of threshing machines and grain fans, three fourths of which they sell south of Baltimore. It was very gratifying to us to hear that most of these sales were made to subscribers to our Magazine, who had read Messrs. Dingee & Co's advertisements in the American Farmer. Mr. Wanbaugh, of York, had also a very large number of agricultural machines and implements on the ground all of which displayed excellent workmanship. We were extremely gratified with our visit to the York County Fair, and return our thanks to the President and Officers of the Society for the civilities we received on that occasion and hope to meet them again at their next annual exhibition.

## NURSERY CATALOGUES.

In addition to the Catalogues of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Roses, Shrubs, Green House Plants, &c., mentioned in the American Farmer for October, we have since received a large number, from various parts of the Union, and which our readers will find enumerated below. These Catalogues are, most of them, from nurseries of established reputation; and many of them from establishments of the largest size and great reliability. Some of these documents are remarkable for the accurate yet concise description of the fruit-trees advertised, and the spelling in many is very correct; though most catalogues, at least American, make the most egregious and disgraceful blunders in this latter particular, besides being extremely defective in arrangement. The catalogue of the Nursery of M. André Le Roy, near Angers, in France, which we have received from the Agent in New York, M. F. A. Bruguiere, is quite a model of a well arranged and systemized catalogue. As we keep at our office a copy of each catalogue received for our reference, and for examination by our visitors, our collection, which is always open to their inspection, will be found sufficient to give to our friends and subscribers ample opportunities of selecting such source of supply, either North or South, as their judgment may dictate.

The season for planting trees has now arrived, and those desiring to plant should not delay in sending their orders as early as possible, to reliable establishments. We acknowledge the receipt of the following Catalogues: *Maryland*—from W. D. Brackenridge, of the Rosebank Nurseries, Govanstown, Baltimore county, about 4 miles from this city.—His advertisement will be found in the present, and in each number of our Magazine since March last. From J. Reichard, of the Arch Spring Nursery,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles South of the College of St. James, and 4 miles South of Williamsport, Washington county. *District of Columbia*—from John Saul, of Washington, whose advertisement may be found in our Magazine for September and October. *New Jersey*—from David Griscom, of the Evergreen Nursery, Woodbury. His advertisement will be found in the present number, and the two preceding numbers of the Farmer. From W. Reid, Elizabethtown, (formerly of the Murray Hill Nursery, N. Y.) From Asher Hance & Son, of the Rumsom Nurseries, near Red Bank, Monmouth county. Their advertisement will be found in the August number of the Farmer. *New York*—from Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of the celebrated Mt. Hope Nurseries, Rochester. Their advertisement will be found in the September number of our Magazine. From A. Frost & Co. of the Genessee Valley Nurseries, Rochester. Their advertisement will be found in the Farmer for September, and for October. From H. E. Hooker, of the Commercial Nurseries,

Rochester. From Thorp, Smith & Hanchett, of the well known Syracuse Nurseries, Syracuse. Their advertisement will be found in the present, and in the October number of the Farmer. From T. C. Maxwell & Bros., of the Old Castle Nurseries, Geneva, Ontario county. From Thomas & Herendeen, of Macedon, Wayne county. From W. R. Prince & Co. of Flushing. Whose advertisement will be found in our October number. From Parsons & Co., of the Commercial Gardens, Flushing. From J. M. Thorburn, of New York City. From A. Saul & Co., of the Highland Nurseries, Newburgh.—From W. Brocksbank of Prospect Hill Nursery, Greenport, near Hudson, Columbia county. *Georgia*—from P. J. Berckmans & Co., of the Fruitland Nursery, Augusta. From Peters, Harden & Co., of the Downing Hill Nursery, Atlanta. From F. A. Mauge, of Augusta, who devotes especial care and attention to the cultivation of that queen of flowers, the Rose, although he also offers Fruit Trees, Shrubs, &c. for sale. His advertisement will be found in the present number of our Magazine. *North Carolina*—from Messrs. Westbrook & Mendenhall, of the West Green Nurseries, 4 miles West of Greensboro. These gentlemen were the exhibitors at the late meeting of the U. S. Pomological Society, in the city of New York, of the superb collection of Southern Apples which were so much admired, and were said, in one account of that exhibition which has fallen under our eye, to have been superior to any collection of apples of northern growth. The advertisement of Messrs. Westbrook & Mendenhall, will be found in the Farmer for the present month. *Louisiana*—from Wilcox & Felt, Bayou Sara. *Missouri*—from Hussman & Co., Hermann. *Ohio*—from John Sapers, of the Cottage Garden Nurseries, Cincinnati. From A. Fahnestock, of the Toledo Nurseries, Toledo. *Illinois*—from Lewis Ellsworth & Co., of the Du Page Co. Nurseries, Naperville.—From John A. Kendicott, of the Grove West Northfield. *Massachusetts*—from B. M. Watson, of the Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth.

ANOTHER NEW VARIETY OF MAIZE.—We have received from C. Trump, Esq., of Baltimore County, to whom we were indebted for a similar favor in September, a specimen of a variety of maize to us entirely new. The grains are broad, short and thick, and in color almost perfectly black. Mr. Trump informs us that this variety was raised from the seed of the same, brought in from Nebraska by his son, who obtained it from the Indians in that Territory. Since we received this corn from Mr. Trump, it has been seen and examined by our friend C. L. Flint, Esq., Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, and has been pronounced by him to be the variety known as "*The Papo Corn*," and cultivated as such by the Aborigines of the West. The meal is very white.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

To the officers of the following Societies, to the exhibitions of which we have been politely furnished with complimentary tickets of admission, we return our thanks, viz.—The Maryland Institute, the Agricultural Society of Kent county, Delaware, the York county, (Pa.) Agricultural Society, the Frederick county (Md.) Agricultural Society, the Washington County, (Md.) Ag. Society, the Maryland State Agricultural Society, the United States Agricultural Society, the New York State Agricultural Society, and the Seaboard Agricultural Society of Virginia.

—We have received from Messrs. Paschall Morris & Co., of Philadelphia, their several Catalogues of Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, &c., and of Garden and Flower Seeds. From H. A. Dreer, Seedsman and Florist, Philadelphia, we have received an interesting pamphlet entitled, "A Detailed Account of Experiments and Observations upon the Sorghum Saccharatum, or Chinese Sugar Cane, made with a view of determining its value as a Sugar producing plant, from Sept. 28, to Dec. 20, 1857, at Oak Hill, Philadelphia county, Pa., by Joseph S. Levering." From Sullivan, Bates & Co. of Bellingham, Norfolk county, Mass., we have received their circular upon the cultivation of the Cranberry. From T. B. Peterson & Co. of Philadelphia, their monthly Counterfeit Detector, and Bank Note List; a useful compilation for business men. To C. L. Flint, Esq. Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, we are indebted for a copy of the Catalogue of the Agricultural Library in his office. We have received the List of Premiums offered by the Sea-Board Agricultural Society of Virginia, whose Exhibition is to be held at Norfolk, Virginia, on the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th, of this month, and list of those of the Planters' Club of Hancock county, Ga., whose exhibition was held at Sparta on the last 4 days of last month. We return our thanks to W. K. Scofield of Stamford, Conn. for a sample of the seed of his imported new variety of the Orange Watermelon; to Messrs. Harshbarger & Phillips, of the Juniata Vineyard, McVeytown, Pa., for very fine Isabella Grapes; to W. Hunter, Esq. of York, Pa., for specimens of Catawba, and to E. Chapin, Esq. of the same place, for specimens of Concord Grapes; to W. D. Brackenridge, of the Rosebank Nurseries, at Govanstown, Baltimore co., on the York Turnpike, about 4 miles from this city, for a repeated contribution of magnificent Dahlias of every hue and shade, which have added not a little to the multiplying attractions of our Office; to Messrs. R. Sinclair & Co. for specimens of pumpkins and other vegetables, and of various kinds of corn and beans raised for seed, on their farm near Baltimore, by their skillfull manager Mr. Green; J. C. Luitwieler, of York, Pa. for specimens of various

vegetables; to Col. W. Tilghman, Esq., of Talbot county, Md., for a specimen of the Peabody Corn. We are much indebted to M. W. Tilghman, Esq. of Queen Anne's county, Md., for contributing to our cabinet, two remarkably fine specimens of marl, one from the farm of John B. Harper, Esq., and the other from that of John S. Price, Esq.; the latter is a most beautiful specimen, the pecten and other shells conglomerated in every conceivable position. From John A. Cramer, Esq., of Frederick County, Md., we have received a very superior specimen of Leaf Tobacco, grown by him on his farm, about five miles from Frederick City; and from J. M. Jacobs, Esq., specimens of insects injurious to vegetation.

THE WISCONSIN FARMER AND NORTH-WESTERN CULTIVATOR—published monthly by Powers & Hoyt, Madison, Wisconsin.—We have received, and shall continue, we hope, to receive regularly, this most admirable Monthly. It is one of our most valued exchanges, and does infinite credit to its able editors, D. J. Powers, and Prof. J. W. Hoyt, with the latter of whom we have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance. In typography and paper, though not quite in wood-cuts, the Wisconsin Farmer fully equals any of its Eastern contemporaries, whilst in having the valuable assistance of a most accomplished lady, as assistant editor, we must acknowledge, in some particulars, its superiority to most of them. We cannot help envying the editors of this valuable Western Magazine, the taste and talent of the sparkling and *spirituelle* pen of Mrs. E. O. S. Hoyt.

THE NORTH WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.—This is the title of a new Weekly Family Journal, published at Chicago, Ill., by W. S. Honnold, and edited by James C. Medill, late one of the editors of the now extinct Prairie Farmer. We have received the first two numbers. The publisher states that this new paper is designed to fill the space left vacant by the demise of the Prairie Farmer—and that he has engaged an corresponding editor, Mr. Charles Betts, one of the most successful farmers in Michigan.

EMERY'S JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, in which the Prairie Farmer has now become merged, has added the title of that paper to its own.

—The Hon. J. R. Williams, President of the Agricultural College of the State of Michigan, will please accept our thanks for the corrected copy of his very able Address at the late Fair of the New York State Agricultural Society, at Syracuse. We regret to have received it too late to avail ourselves of its contents for our present No., but in the Farmer for December, we hope to give our readers an opportunity of receiving some of the pleasure and instruction from its pages, which we are sure they cannot fail to impart.

[November]

## GRAPE CULTURE IN EAST TENNESSEE.

SEVERN SIDE, Oct. 21, 1858.

To the Editors of the *American Farmer*:

DEAR SIR:—Some time ago I mentioned to you that I had been favored with certain interesting communications on Grape growing and Wine making from Messieurs Guerin and Chable, of Polk county, Tennessee. Supposing that they would be as acceptable to many of your readers as they have been to me, I requested permission to publish them in the Farmer; and although such publicity was entirely unexpected by the writers, they have very kindly yielded their assent, and I take pleasure in sending you herewith, translations of their letters—or of such portions as treat of the subjects above mentioned.

Having been engaged in the business in France; and for several years past, devoting almost their entire attention to it in this country, the experience and opinions of these gentlemen must be considered of no little value. Their mode of terracing the steep mountains, upon which their vineyards are established, appears to commend itself especially for its economy and excellence; and the ease with which it is accomplished by the plough and hoe.— You will observe that the growth of the plant, and terrace proceed simultaneously, for four or five years; when the vine finds itself firmly rooted in a soil of suitable texture and composed of substances the best adapted to its permanent health and fertility.

Now that we have made the acquaintance of these intelligent and practical cultivators of "Vino-na," it is to be hoped that we may receive additional information from their pens.

You will, perhaps, remember that in a former communication to your Journal, I adverted to the fact that the agricultural division of the Patent Office had sent out an Agent to collect cuttings of native vines. I have recently learned with pleasure from the Washington correspondence of the *Balt. Sun.*, that he has extended his travels into New Mexico, and has found a grape there, of which he writes in the following laudatory terms:—

—<sup>24</sup> In size of bunches, in size of berries, and exalted sweetness, as well as delicacy of flavor, it is unrivaled by any variety in cultivation in the United States. It tastes like the Isabella sweetened with long sugar.

This is, probably, the grape cultivated in the vineyards of El Paso, and at other settlements on the upper Rio Grande; and which I have often heard very highly praised by officers of our Army serving on that frontier. But I have generally received their accounts with some grains of allowance; knowing well that men who have been for weeks in the saddle, beating up *Lipens* and *Camanches* in the Lland Estacado and its dismal environs, subsisting the while on tough-biscuit and jerked beef, are blessed with a better appetite for, than a discriminating taste in fruits, when they happen to reach the plantations of a civilized people.

However, let us hope that this New Mexican grape may maintain its reputation here, and prove a valuable acquisition to our gardens and vineyards.

I am sir, very truly yours,

— L. GIDDINGS

VISOMA, Polk Co., Tennessee,  
M. J. G. M. D. S.

Situated as we are here in a mountainous country, 2500 feet above the level of the sea, and our slopes

being about 45°; I have adopted the plan of *terracing*, which is practiced in many parts of France. Much of the work is done by the plough; and the cost of preparing an acre of mountain land for vines is as follows:—

is as follows:—	
For cutting off the wood, per acre,	6.00
Grubbing,	3.00
Breaking the ground,	2.00
Opening the furrows for the vines, per acre,	1.00
Burning the wood, grubs, etc., and finish- ing the preparation of the ground,	2.00

Thus an acre, ready for planting, costs \$14.00. Not until the vine is 5 or 6 years old is it usually in full bearing, but meanwhile, in order to subdue and meliorate the soil, I cultivate thereon, corn and peas, or carrots and potatoes. In Autumn I sow upon the terrace, turnips, to pasture a flock of 30 or 40 sheep, which I keep on my farm; and the land is enriched by their remaining on the terraces during the winter.

I begin to prune my young vines at 3 years of age, and am then extremely careful to "déchausser" them; that is, to remove the ground for 6 or 8 inches in depth around each plant, in order to cut off the roots formed at that distance below the surface. This is necessary in all warm countries, to avoid too quick a circulation of the sap when the earth is heated in the Spring. According to my judgment this is one of the chief causes of the rotting of grapes; as also the common negligence in working deep. Our grasses ripen about the last of September or beginning of October, and yield generally 350 gallons per acre.

I follow the best French methods for the manufacture of wine. First, crushing all the grapes in a Mill, known in France as the "*Moulin de Guérin pour écraser les raisins.*"

If it is sparkling wine that I wish to make, the crushed grapes are carried directly under the press; and the half-expressed juice is received at once in the hogsheads where it is to ferment. If it is vin cave,—that is to say,—like that of Bourgogne, Bordeaux, &c. &c., the crushed grapes are placed in large tubs, after however removing half the stems; the other half being kept in the must throughout the whole fermentation, in order to afford the tannin necessary for the preservation of the wine. This fermentation lasts about 12 or 15 days. As soon as the wine is cold, and the head (*chapeau*) is formed, it must be barreled and taken to the cellar. The cares after this are simply to keep the casks full, the bungs light, and to rack off in December, in clear, cold weather.

I cultivate the Catawba and Isabella; the first only for sparkling wine, the second combined with the fox and Summer wild grapes, makes a red wine. Soon I shall be able to use a grape resembling in flavor one of the grapes of France. It is a seedling of the Catawba, but different altogether in flavor from it.

We have suffered this year from Spring frosts;—our first and second buds being destroyed, but it happened that yet new buds appeared near the old wood, and if the season continues warm until the middle of October, as is usually the case here, we shall gather a good crop.

Vines planted 360 feet above my residence have never been injured by the Spring frosts. This is explained by the greater agitation of the air at that elevation, which does not allow the vapor to condense.

goal. We have commenced making new vineyards in that altitude, in order to avoid the risk of losing all.

I have received from France, drawings and a description of the machine employed there for sulphuring vines. If anything of this kind would interest you, tell me, and I shall be truly gratified to address you thereupon. \*

Accept Sir, the assurance of my best respects,  
N. E. GUERIN.

VINONA, August, 1858.

MAJ. GIDDINGS—Dear Sir:—

About a year ago we received a visit from Mr. Christy, a Geologist from Ohio, sent to make an agricultural reconnaissance of this region. He has since published an extremely interesting pamphlet, describing the general aspect of the country, its climate, the influence of the atmosphere upon its vegetation; and the success of certain products, particularly the vine; all these subjects are treated with clearness and precision.

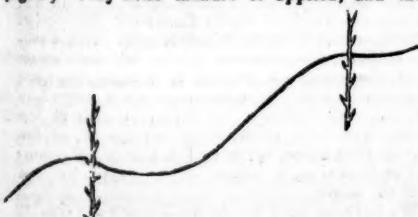
You are doubtless aware that this part of Tennessee is of primitive formation, and nearly everywhere the Talcosite slate is to be found, at a depth varying between 4 and 5 feet, and in nearly vertical strata. This rests upon granite, which rarely appears above the surface of the earth. The soil is composed of humus; filled with pulverized slate, which has a yellowish red appearance, doubtless caused by the presence of numerous veins of iron ore, which seam the ground everywhere. The soil is sufficiently deep for the vine to flourish, and with a vigor truly astonishing. Our hills slope at an angle of about  $45^{\circ}$ ; and to protect our vineyards from the heavy rains, so common in the South, we plant our vines upon terraces, 6 feet in width, though if the mountain inclines at a still greater angle, we make the terrace not quite so wide.

Now, as regards the manner of planting the vine and forming the terrace:

First, we trace a deep furrow with the plough, (fig. 1.)—In this the young plants are carefully



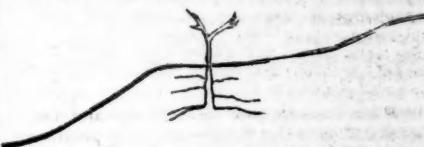
placed and covered with the hoe, and then by reversing the plough, we fill up the furrow entirely, (fig. 2.) Very little manure is applied, and the



only labor required the first year, is that of keeping the ground clean and in good order.

The second year, we enrich the ground a little more; and continue to widen the terrace with the plough and the hoe; always in August of this second year, tracing carefully a very deep furrow, a little behind the young vines; and as the terrace widens, the furrow is made further back; until the 4th or 5th year, when the vine is grown and the terrace completed. We cut off with the hoe, all the briars, weeds, &c. which have grown on the hill-side during the summer, and throw it all in this furrow or trench; and then with a turn of the plough (*un coup de charrue à versoir*), cover it over. In our latitude this kind of manure produces excellent effects.

Not until the 3rd year do we commence to prune the vine and give it a support. Selecting the two strongest shoots we cut them back to within two eyes from the ground, (fig. 3.) persevering in hoeing



and working the soil; and adding a little stable manure, especially to those vines which seem feeble. In the 4th year the vine begins to bear a little. We then prune back to two shoots, leaving upon each, 3 or 4 eyes, according to the vigor of the vine.—The levelling of the terrace is then finished; and the vine stands in, at least two feet, of fine, rich earth; since it is formed of decomposed vegetable matter.

When 5 or 6 years old, the vine is fully matured; and receives no other fertilizing than that afforded by leaves, earth from the mountains, and ashes. The pruning then depends much upon its strength. Generally we leave three or four shoots to each vine; and upon each shoot from 5 to 8 buds. We take care to keep a spur with two eyes, near the ground, so as to lower the vine if at any time found necessary.

I have seen this year upon some vines, eight bunches of perfect grapes from 2 buds. We prune our vines so that they will bear from 60 to 75 bunch-

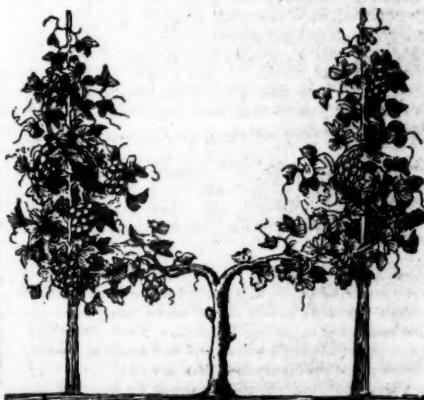


FIG. 4.

of grapes, and train them rather low, about 2 feet above the ground; in order that the warmth of the earth may aid in ripening the fruit. As so large a quantity of fruit would not be sufficiently exposed to the influence of sun and air if attached to a single stake, we give two or three to each vine, which is then trained in the fan shape, (fig. 4.)

In November and December we remove the ground around each vine, a few inches in depth, and cut off the small roots which have grown during the Summer; leaving the trunk exposed to the air until the first Spring working. We have really no other enemies to encounter, but the late spring frosts; and though Vinona is more than two thousand feet above the sea, yet it seems now that vineyards placed at a slight elevation above it (and with a particular aspect, too, perhaps) may escape all injury from this cause. Nearly all our fruit buds were killed this year by the occurrence of three successive frosts between the first and sixth of May; whilst a vineyard situated about 350 feet above ours, upon a small plateau, received not the least injury; even when the thermometer was at 6° below zero. Thus far we have wholly escaped the rot and the oidium; and we attribute this immunity in a great measure to the purity of the atmosphere, the total absence of stagnant water, but chiefly to the permeability of our sub-soil.

We cultivate only the Catawba and the Isabella, and both produce excellent wine; but the Catawba, here as elsewhere, affords a wine which in bouquet and strength yields to none thus far made in the United States. We think that the wild Fox grape, when mingled in a certain proportion with the other varieties, is quite a desirable aid to the bouquet, and causes the wine to resemble a great deal our Chambertin wines. We cannot at present speak decisively of the merits of this combination, as the experiment has not been made often enough or on a sufficiently large scale as yet.

In good seasons we can make from 400 to 450 gallons of good wine, per acre. Our grapes ripen ordinarily toward the end of September, when the nights become cold, and the weather is favorable to the fermentation. The greater number of our wines being, until recently, the Isabella, we have chiefly made the Red wine, according to the French method. After first picking over the grapes, and well crushing them, we leave them to ferment in vessels containing about 200 gallons, retaining in the juice part of the stem and pulp; the first imparting tannin, and the last the beautiful red color. The tannin helps to keep the wine, but gives it that astringent quality upon which you remark. But this bitter taste disappears with time, and the wine is all the better for it: becomes stronger, more full bodied, and is truly and properly a wine to keep.

Our Isabella wines contain a great deal of Tar-tar; a salt which also imparts to them a taste by no means agreeable at first; but which eventually disappears like the tannin. This tar-tar is precipitated in the casks; hardens, crystallizes, and then is ready for commerce and known as Cream of Tar-tar.

A different process is required for white wine, which we have made this year, for the first time.— Though the red wines have more body and are more beautiful in color, the white have the advantage in point of mellowness and are more agreeable to drink; but precisely on this account, and from the absence of tannin, they cannot be kept as long

without employing some artificial means. These white wines are made in France and Germany by a process very slightly differing from that adopted in Ohio and elsewhere.

Ten or twelve days suffice usually for the fermentation of our red wine; when it begins to clear it is put away in casks in the cellar, where it is left until February, when it is racked off into other casks, and is then ready for sale. We make it a point to sulphur the casks lightly before filling with wine, to expel all unpleasant odors; but especially on account of the humid condition in which they generally are.

Such is, dear sir, our mode of cultivating the vine; in describing which, my object has been to give you a general idea of our operations, without entering into details.

Believe me, sir, respectfully yours,

ALPHONSE CHARLE.

VINONA, September 15th, 1858.

MAJ. L. GIDDINGS—Dear Sir:—

I have received your kind letter and hasten to reply. Certainly, Sir, I consent to your publishing whatever in my letter strikes you as being useful or worthy of it; though if I had foreseen your intention, I should have written with more care and regard to arrangement. However, such as it is, make what use of it you think proper.

To resume the subject of mutual interest to us:—our terraces are quite horizontal and level when finished, and about six feet wide. They cannot be destroyed by the heaviest rains, for it matters not what quantity of water falls, it is generally diffused throughout the length of the terrace; remaining there and slowly filtering through the soil. If, however, the terrace is not exactly horizontal;—if, for instance, it is lower in the middle than at the ends,—the rain collecting there, breaks over the slopes, and causes more damage to the vineyard than if unprotected by terraces. As our subsoil is essentially permeable; and our climate rather dry and warm, than cold and damp, the roots can receive a great deal of moisture without injury; and in fact, to force the water to remain upon the terraces, we incline them rather towards the inside than the reverse,—in this manner:



Moreover, when we are working the terrace, we are always careful to make the last furrow at the foot of the slope, *very deep*;—passing the plough through it several times, making thus a little ditch. It would therefore require extraordinary rains indeed, to cause an overflow from one terrace to another. This plan of retaining the water upon the terrace has, I repeat, no inconvenience with us; but in a country less highly favored in climate and subsoil, would certainly be injudicious. If the season should be excessively damp, we can easily drain the water off, instead of leaving it to filter through the soil. Too much moisture engenders the rot, and certainly injures the quality of the wine. The little ditch before mentioned, at the foot of each slope, becomes filled during the summer with leaves, prunings, weeds, grass, &c., cut from the slopes.

We have not tried the trellis in our vineyards.—

I can see no advantage possessed by that system of training, over the one generally followed here as in Europe, viz: that of fastening the vine to stakes; and it strikes me as being much easier to replace old and decayed stakes, where each one is independent of its neighbor, than where all are united by long bands of wood or wire.

Truly yours, ALPHONSE CHABLE.

## LAND SALES.

MARYLAND.

*Baltimore Co., Cromwell Park.*—The beautiful farm on the Northern Central Railroad, near Monkton, Baltimore county, containing about 200 acres, was sold last week at private sale, for \$22,000, to Mr. Henry Musselman, of Lancaster county, Pa.—*Sun.*

The Trustees of the "Sheppard Asylum," have purchased 25 acres of land, adjoining their late purchase of the Poultney estate, of Mr. Wm. Bowen, for \$300 per acre. Mr. Ys P. Jones, has sold 15 acres of his farm, lying between Fork Meeting House and Watkins' Tavern, to Mr. Uriah Carter, for \$50 per acre.—*Advocate.*

The farm of the late Mrs. Susan Hale, of Long Green, was sold on Wednesday, the 6th. The home place was sold to George T. Riggs, of Baltimore, for \$77.50 per acre, and a portion on the opposite side of the turnpike, for \$44.50. A tract of land, not connected with the above, containing 70 acres, was sold to Walter T. Hale, for \$11.50 per acre. The entire property comprises 226 acres.—*Advocate.*

*Carroll Co.*—Sold at the Baltimore Exchange, a farm in Carroll county, near Marriottsville, containing 307½ acres. It is improved by a stone dwelling-house, with Switzer barn and other necessary farm houses, and was purchased by B. M. Campbell for \$30 per acre, or an aggregate of \$9,225.—*Sun.*

*Cecil Co.*—Col. Thomas Howard, has bought the farm of the late Jacob Ash near Elkton, 148 acres, for \$15 per acre.—*Whig.*

Barclay Reynolds, Esq., Sheriff, sold at public sale twenty acres of land, without improvements, lying near Harrisville, 6th District, for \$36 an acre; John T. Coulson, purchaser.—*Whig.*

Wm. J. Jones, Esq., Trustee, sold 28½ acres of land, late the property of Samuel Whitlock, lying in Sassafras Neck, for \$350; John R. Price, Esq., purchaser.—*Whig.*

*Dorchester County.*—The property advertised in this paper, by John J. Skinner, Esq., belonging to the late Horatio Jones, and located near Loomtown, in this county, was sold for \$36 per acre—430 acres. The House in Church Creek for \$600. The Dwelling at or near Loomtown, for \$850.—All purchased by Mr. Skinner himself.—*Herald.*

"Hall Seat" late the property of Wm. Jackson, deceased, was sold by the executor, for \$4,360.

The real estate of S. D. Twilley, near Middle-town, was sold by Commissioners, for \$4,900, to Thos. Storr.—*Herald.*

*CASTLE HAVEN FARM.*—We learn that Mr. John A. Applegarth, has sold 267 acres of this farm to Samuel J. Pentz, Esq., Baltimore, including all the improvements on it, for \$7,500.

It is beautifully located on the Choptank river, about 10 miles from Cambridge. Mr. P. intends planting out about 2,000 peach trees, on it this fall, and next year about 3000.—*Herald.*

B. F. Lecompte, Esq., has sold his farm called "Mount Vernon" near Salem, in this county, containing 375 acres of land to Mr. John Gore, for \$10,000.—*Herald.*

*Frederick County.*—Col. Edward Shriver, as Trustee, sold at private sale, the "Arcadia" Farm, the property of M. Keefer, Esq., containing 338 acres, for the sum of \$30,000.—*Purchaser Thos. Clagget.*—*Citizen.*

L. Vanfossen, Esq., Auctioneer, sold at Public Sale, on account of A. W. Marriott, Esq., trustee, a tract of land, containing 78 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches, lying 4 miles S. E. of this city, at \$19.50 per acre, to Henry Lorentz, Esq.—*Fred. Examiner.*

*Prince George's County.*—Col. W. W. W. Bowie, has disposed of his "Locust Grove" Farm, containing two hundred and seventeen acres, at something over eighty dollars per acre, and it was purchased by Robert Bowie, (of Walter) Esq.—*Advocate.*

Captain E. A. Ryther, has just sold his farm, "Melrose," in Prince George's county, 190 acres, to Mr. A. Berry, of the "Forest," for \$40 an acre.—*Sun.*

*Talbot County.*—A. J. Loveday, auctioneer, sold at public sale in front of the Court House, for H. P. Hopkins, Trustee, the two farms, formerly belonging to Jas. H. Ridgaway. The lower Farm was struck off to Wm. T. Lee, Esq., for \$8.25 per acre, and the other to Jeremiah Fitzjerrall, for \$4.75 per acre. Another was offered but not sold.

The same Auctioneer, sold for R. C. Hollyday, Esq., Trustee of Wm. Loveday, deceased, the "Kennedy Farm," near Easton, on Tuesday, which was purchased by Mr. J. R. Bennett, for \$15 per acre.—*Gazette.*

Mr. Theodore P. Harrison, of St. Michael's district, Talbot county, Md., has sold his farm to J. R. Woolen, Esq., of Baltimore county, for \$9,000.

*St. Mary's County.*—B. G. Harris and John A. Camalier, sold at Trustee's sale "Pt. Hopton Park," containing 103 acres, for \$1500. Purchaser Z. Tippott.—*Beacon.*

*Washington Co.*—Mr. Geo. Seibert, of the Clearspring District, sold at private sale his valuable property, consisting of thirty-five acres of land with improvements, for the sum of \$4,500. There is a grist mill on the land. Purchaser, Mr. George W. Bittinger, from near Funkstown.—*Mail.*

George Scott Kennedy, has sold his "Rockland" farm, two miles from the College of St. James, in Washington county, Md., to Wm. Brosius, for \$18,392. It contains 260½ acres.—*Herald.*

## VIRGINIA.

*Spotsylvania Co.*—The Farm belonging to Rev. D. M. Wharton and Mr. Frank Tompkins, containing 754 acres, was purchased by the last named gentleman a few weeks ago at \$6½ per acre. The farm lies in this county, 15 miles south of Fredericksburg, and 8 miles from Guiney's Depot,

on the R. F. & P. Railroad. Another instance going to prove that lands in this section are cheaper, all things considered, than in any other quarter of the United States!—*Fredericksburg Herald.*

*Essex Co.*—W. D. Bates, Esq., sold his place known as "Cleveland," near Port Royal, to William J. White, for \$12 an acre—600 acres; and "Hazlewood," adjoining it and the same number of acres, to Thomas Henshaw, of King and Queen county, for \$11 an acre.—*Rural Southerner.*

*Caroline Co.*—Mr. D. C. DeJarnette of Caroline county, bought a tract of land, several years ago, adjoining his farm, containing about 500 acres, which he sold recently for \$8,240, realizing a clear profit, after paying all expenses for improvements, of \$4,000.—*Rural Southerner.*

*Jefferson County.*—The "Florence Farm," 3½ miles south of Smithfield, containing one hundred and fifty one acres, with good improvements, was sold by Lewis Fry, Esq., trustee, for the sum of \$37.56 per acre—Mr. Joseph Hout, purchaser—the terms of sale being \$2500 in cash, and balance in one, two, and three years with interest on deferred payments.—*Free Press.*

*Abermarle County.*—"Blenheim," the estate of the late Andrew Stevenson, has been sold to a Mr. Harris, of New York, at \$28 per acre—900 acres in the tract.

*King George County.*—The fine farm and residence of Wm. S. Payne, Esq., known as "Mountpleasant," was purchased at public sale on the 21st inst., by Dr. Wm. Jett, of Westmoreland. It contains 450 acres, and was sold for \$13,000, subject to the dower of Mrs. P., which is estimated at about \$2,000. Dr. J. also bought 50 acres of woodland, detached, at \$10 per acre.

The Rev. L. J. Hansberger has disposed of his farm, near Falmouth, (through Mr. Wm. M. Mitchell, Land Agent,) to Mr. Bryan, of Cecil County, Md. The farm contained about 200 acres and was sold for \$7,000. It is the intention of Mr. Bryan to open a large dairy, and to give his attention largely to the production of peaches. We know of no enterprise which promises more satisfactory returns.—*Fred. Herald.*

*Culpepper County.*—The following sales have recently been made in Culpepper County:

"Buckland," 367 1-5 acres, to Hon. J. Morton, at \$11 per acre.

"Smithfield," 577½ acres, to Wm. G. Crenshaw, at \$15.95 per acre.

"Clifton," 181½ acres, to Samuel Shadrach, at \$9.75 per acre.

"Clifton," 93½ acres, to Samuel Shadrach, at \$11.10 per acre.

"Longs," 150 acres, to Wm. G. Crenshaw, at \$5 per acre.

"Gun Springs," 318 acres, to Ferdinand Jones, at \$2 per acre.

Total 1688 1-10 acres. Gross sale amounting to \$17,452.30.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

*Fairfax Co.*—Fairfax land in demand. The following sales of Real Estate in this county were made within a week or two past. The tracts are all in the vicinity of Lewinsville, (known formerly as Barrett's Cross Roads) and Langley:

Mr. A. B. Ransom sold his farm, containing 84 acres, to Mr. I. K. Gorham, for the sum of \$50 per acre. Mr. J. C. Younglove, sold his farm,

containing about 50 acres, to Mr. Young, of Georgetown, D. C., for \$50 per acre. Dr. Wm. H. McVeigh, sold his farm, containing 100 acres, to Mr. Henry Jenkins, for the sum of \$7,000—or \$70 per acre. Mr. Wm. Woodworth, sold his residence and 50 acres of land, to Mr. James McGarry, for the sum of \$85 per acre.

It will readily be seen from the figures given above, that land in some portions of our county commands a price which is sufficient to astonish those "out-siders" who have heretofore regarded "old Fairfax" as possessing no land fit for cultivation.—*News.*

## PENNSYLVANIA.

The following accounts of sales are from the Bucks Co. Intelligencer, of the past month:—

*Bucks Co.*—The farm of Henry C. Fosmier, in Plumstead, containing 97 acres, was offered at public sale, and bid to \$45 per acre, but not sold.

The small farm of John Rickard, in Plumstead, containing 32 acres, was put up at public sale and bid to \$1,875, but not sold.

Isaac Walton has sold his farm in Warwick township, containing 91 acres and 107 perches, to Robert Barton, of the same township, for \$5,500.

The farm of Jess Allum, in Bedminster, containing 81 acres, has been sold to Samuel Wissler, of Haycock, for \$1,850.

George W. Carver, has sold his farm in Solebury, known as the "Gregory farm," containing 117 acres, to a Philadelphian, for about \$100 per acre.

Thomas Ely, has sold his farm near New Hope, in Solebury, to Dr. Hufnagle, for \$85 per acre,

On the 28th of September, the real estate of Samuel Myers, deceased, in Bedminster, containing 66 acres, to Levi Myers, of the same township, for \$50 per acre.

On the 2d inst., the real estate of Isaac Overholt, dec'd, in Plumstead township, containing 94 acres, to Abraham Overholt, of the same township, for \$46.50 per acre.

On the 5th inst., the real estate of Leonard Detweiler, of Hulltown, containing 41 acres, to Reuben Yother, of Lehigh county, for \$76 per acre.

On the 8th inst., the real estate of Charles Roberts, dec'd, in Doylestown township, containing 37 acres, to Isaac Jacoby, of New Britain, for \$98 per acre.

*Lancaster County.*—The following recent sales in Lancaster county, Pa., show the high figure land commands in the "Garden County," notwithstanding the times are out of joint so much:—The farm of John G. Brenner, one mile west of Lancaster, containing 124 acres, sold for \$161.25 per acre. Ephraim Bear's farm in West Earl, 111 acres, sold for \$152 per acre. Enos Conrad's in E. Lampeter, 56 acres, brought \$177. John S. Rohrer's, near Strasburg, brought \$146. The "Spring Dale" farm in Manheim township, of Nathaniel Ellmaker, Jr., sold for \$138, half the grain being reserved. The farm of John Johns, in Upper Leacock township, sold at \$171 an acre.

*Chester County.*—Jacob Rhoades, sold 32 acres of land in West Vincent township, Chester county, to Isaac Smith, of the same township, for \$4000 or \$125 per acre.—*West Chester Record.*

## KENTUCKY.

Highland Home, the beautiful estate of Mr. Jno. Matthews, overlooking the village of Mayslick, embracing an area of 186½ acres, was sold at private sale, to Mr. Mitchell Miller, of Bourbon county, at \$100 per acre, on two payments, one half cash the balance in 12 months. The same farm was sold 18 months since by Mr. Wm. Hodge, of this city at \$80 per acre—a rapid advance, considering the monetary pressure.—*Maysville Eagle*.

**Shelby County.**—The Farm of Messrs. McWilliams, was sold at public sale, at \$56.75 per acre. Mr. John B. Offutt, was the purchaser.—*Shelby News*.

**Madison County.**—The farm belonging to the estate of James Moor, deceased, containing 220 acres was sold a short time since at public auction for \$60.05 per acre. This is a very superior tract and the price is regarded as low—Durrett White, Esq., was the purchaser. It lies 10 miles from Richmond on Silver Creek.

The farm of Durrett White, containing 300 acres was bought at public auction by Thos. S. Brouston, Sr. Esq., at \$50, per acre. This land is on the Lancaster Turnpike three miles from town.

Thos. H. Embry, lately sold at private sale, part of his land on the upper Estill road to Mr. Edward C. Boggs, at \$50 per acre, we don't know the quantity.

**Harrison County.**—The farm of Wm. H. Wilson, lying on the turnpike half way between Ruddes Mills, and Cynthiana, and containing 350 acres, was sold. by auction, at the large price of \$55.02 per acre on four payments. Pretty well for hard times.—*Maysville Eagle*.

**Bourbon County.**—The farm of Henry Parker, dec'd, lying five miles from town, on the Millersburg pike, was purchased by S. M. Hibler, the auctioneer, on Thursday, at \$90.20 per acre.—Willis Hedges afterwards purchased it at an advance of \$250. The farm contains 220 acres.—Mr. John Stone, last week sold his farm, near North Middletown, containing 500 acres, to Jonathan Owens, at \$70 per acre.—*Paris Flag*.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

**Jackson County.**—Sold at the Baltimore Exchange, by F. W. Bennett, auctioneer, a tract of land, containing 640 acres. Purchaser William Thomas, Jr., for \$24 per acre.—*Sun*.

## LOUISIANA.

At the late auction sale, two sugar plantations belonging to the succession of the late Pierre LeFevre, Messrs. Vignie, A. Bouiligny and Neville acting as auctioneers, the plantation on the Bayou Lafourche, with one hundred and seventy-two hands, sold for \$147,000; and the plantation at the Vacherie Dugué Livaudais, on the same bayou, with eighty hands, sold for \$90,000. Mr. G. Sabatier was the purchaser of both plantations. The sale was made to effect a partition of property.—The terms were, one-third cash, and a credit of one, two, three, four and five years, with the usual interest.—*Picayune*.

**VERY DIRTY.**—An Illinois paper says there is a man out there so dirty that the assessors set him down as 'real estate.'

## THE STRAWBERRY PLANT.

From the London Illustrated News of the 4th of September last, we copy the following letter from N. Longworth, Esq., of Cincinnati, Ohio, so famous for his strawberries, and his Catawba wine, addressed to the Editor of that paper:—

CINCINNATI, Ohio, July, 1858.

"Believing that this letter, if it should lead to an investigation of the nature of the strawberry plant, will be worth millions of dollars to Europe, I request its publication in your paper. Linnaeus, and all your botanists, to this day, believe that the strawberry plant is always perfect in all its organs. I hold, on the contrary, that in raising from seed, nearly five-sixths of the plants are entirely defective in stamens or pistils, and never bear a single berry, unless impregnated by a staminate—that even the perfect plant will bear no fruit, unless insects are about, to carry the farina. Twenty years since, we had staminate and pistillate plants only. I had an eighth of an acre in strawberry plants, and yet had to go to a market woman, Mrs. Arbigurst, to buy the fruit to supply my own family. One day, a son of hers came into my garden, when the plants were nearly blossoming, and observed, 'You raise but little fruit, and the reason is, your plants are nearly all staminates.' I said, 'That is nonsense; the strawberry belongs to a class of plants, that is perfect in all its organs.' I asked him which would bear fruit. He pointed out two plants. After he left, I put a mark to each plant. When they blossomed, I could see the stamens at the distance of ten feet, or more, and the blossoms were one-fourth larger; in the blossoms of the two, no stamens to be seen, till carefully examined, and wholly defective, having no farina. The few pistillate plants bore a perfect berry to each blossom; the staminates, not even a defective berry. Before they were out of blossom, I dug up every staminate plant. The next season, I had not a single berry. I made the case known, and, in three years, strawberries were reduced two-thirds in price. For years, our Eastern horticulturists held to the old doctrine, but have now become converts. The secretary of your horticultural society, wrote me, that the difference must be caused by our soil and climate, and, that our pistillates, with you, would change. I shall believe this, as soon as I believe in our prevalent doctrine of spiritual rappings, but not before. Your botanists should have investigated this, years since.—Publications show that a disciple of Linnaeus, wrote him, that he had discovered a plant, defective in pistils, and, which never bore a berry.—Linnaeus advised him to keep quiet. That the failure to bear fruit must have been caused by frost—there is stronger evidence. Read your horticultural reports. Mr. Kean, who raised from seed, your celebrated Kean's seedling, wrote a letter to the Horticultural Society, saying, that to his surprise, he found some seedlings that bore no fruit. He examined the blossoms closely, and could not find a fully developed stamen. He then planted a perfect plant near them, and every blossom bore fruit. This letter was published, and the matter there ended. Many blossoms are entirely defective in pistils, and bear no fruit; others, not wholly perfect, and bear defective berries; the average crop, not more than one-half of perfect

fruit; the fruit large, and from the seed you will be certain to have superior pistillates, perfect plants, and many staminate. The old botanist, Mrs. Arbigurst, every season threw plants on the road where the strawberry men passed. They picked them up, and planted them; but the plants did not bear a single berry. She was careful to throw out all staminate. I last summer planted about 20,000 strawberry seed, and have seedlings bearing yearly.

N. LONGWORTH.

#### MECHANICAL PRINCIPLES—FIELD-GATES.

The London "Builder" in a review of an excellent work a few weeks since, published by Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London, entitled "The Book of Farm Implements and Machines. By James Slight and R. Scott Burn, Engineers," gives the following, among other extracts which, together with some very interesting comments we condense and transfer to our pages:

"In many instances," as the authors of the work under notice observe, "cumbrous strength is given to parts which a knowledge of the strains to which they were subjected, and the pressure which they were calculated to bear, would have at once shown to have been unnecessary. Take for instance, the arrangement of a piece of framework—as a roof, or a gate, or the framing of a machine. A workman ignorant of the strains or pressures to which the materials he employs is subject, and of the methods by which the direction and amount of these strains or pressures are ascertained, uses a heavy part to perform an office which a much lighter one would have effected.

Again, a mechanic desirous to make a beam or shaft to do double the work, or to sustain twice the pressure, of a given pattern or model, would naturally double the dimensions, unaware of the fact that he would thus obtain a much greater strength than he anticipated. A knowledge of the law that the transverse strength of square beams of equal length is as the cube of their depth; of rectangular beams, as the square of their depth, multiplied by their breadth, and divided by their length; and of round beams, as the cube of their diameter, would have enabled him to have avoided this mistake."

"We see," says the Builder, "exemplifications of this ignorance of mechanical principles every day around us, and this in connection with even the simplest parts of implements. Thus, the handles of a hay-fork and of a turnip-hoe will be made exactly of the same form although the strain to which the two implements are subjected is differently situated. Again, we find that instruments of the same class have differently formed handles—one specimen tapering from the working part outwards, another with its taper the reverse of this. Both cannot be right; and a brief consideration of the strain to which the instrument is subjected would at once show the part which required to be made strongest and that which had to be made lightest. \* \* \* \* Few, comparatively, of our mechanics are acquainted with the fact that if the broad flange of a cast-iron beam be placed upwards, it will break with a weight a little more than one-third of that which it will sustain when placed with the flange downwards."

The Builder again quotes, "Of all simple geometrical figures," says Dr. Moseley, "the triangle is the only one which cannot alter its form without at the same time altering the dimensions of its sides, and which cannot therefore yield, except by separating at its angles, or tearing its sides asunder. Hence therefore, a triangle whose joints cannot separate, and whose sides are of sufficient strength, is perfectly rigid. And this can be asserted of no other plane figure whatever. Thus a parallelogram may have sides of infinite strength, and no force may be sufficient to tear its joints asunder, and yet it may be made to alter its form by the action of the slightest force impressed upon it. And this is true, in greater or less degree of all other four-sided figures and polygons." But the practical utility of these deductions may yet be obscure to the thoroughly practical man. "It is for these reasons," continues the author we have quoted, "that in all framing, care is taken to combine all the parts as far as possible in triangles, which, being once done, we know that the rigidity of the system may be insured by giving the requisite strength to the timbers and joints."

#### FIELD-GATES.

"This practical deduction," continues the Builder, "from the mathematical enunciation just given is of the highest importance in mechanical construction. Let us exemplify it in connection with field gates—a part of our agricultural economy than which none points out so broadly the ignorance of our artisans in those important branches of their education—the elementary truths of geometry and mechanics. A field-gate may be described as a rectangular frame. No matter what may be the strength of its parts or the extent of its up-filings, if they are placed at right angles to each other; it is a very weak form, and liable to change with comparatively slight pressure; but a gate in the form of a triangle would, if the joints and materials were strong enough, be perfectly immutable. This, however, would be an unserviceable shape. How, then, can the principle of the triangle be applied? Simply thus:

"If we take a rectangular frame, so essential to a field-gate, and apply a bar in the position of the diagonal of the parallelogram, we immediately convert the original rectangular figure into two triangles, applied to each other by their hypotenuse, and which give us the true elements of a properly constructed gate, all the other parts being subordinate to these, and adapted solely to the practical purposes of the gate as a defence, or for ornament." \* \* \* \* \* "Tie with iron and strut with wood" is an axiom of universal application in mechanical construction. Ignorance of this axiom has frequently resulted in great waste of material, by using heavy and costly parts, when lighter and cheaper would have sufficed. Let us indicate this briefly as exemplified in the construction of a gate.

"In field-gates constructed entirely of wood, the diagonal should invariably be applied as a strut; that is to say, it should rise from the *foot* of the heel-post, and terminate at the *top* of the head-post. Placed in this position, the diagonal supports the head or swinging end of the gate, by its resistance to compression—a duty which, from the *area* of its cross section being considerable, and hence capable of resisting lateral flexure, it

is well adapted to perform; while, at the same time, the above sectional property gives it a broad terminal resistance, where it abuts upon the angles of the external frame. The same diagonal bar, if applied in the opposite position, and performing the duty of a tie or stay, its great sectional area would avail but little; for, though woody fibre is capable of resisting very considerable tension—larch wood having, with equal sectional areas, a power of resistance to tension to about one-quarter that of malleable iron of medium quality,—and though this wooden tie might be found to possess, in its aggregate section, a cohesive force greatly beyond that of an iron bar applied in the same position—for the wooden bar would have a sectional area at least twelve times greater than could be requisite for an iron tie, thus yielding an aggregate force double of the iron,—yet as the wooden tie must depend for its connection in the structure upon nails or bolts only, its ultimate power of resistance to tension depends not on its own sectional area, but on that of the nails or bolts by which it is fastened; and these, again, may be greatly reduced by the rending of the extremities of the wooden tie."

'The advantages of iron as a tie, and its disadvantages as a strut are just the converse of the foregoing.' The authors of the work under review, continue: "The essentials of a field-gate, whether of wood or iron, are a rectangular frame, consisting of the heel and head posts, and a top and bottom bar or rail, which four parts, properly connected at the angles, are rendered of an unchangeable figure by the application of one or more diagonal bars, and these diagonals should in no case be applied short of the whole length between any two of the opposite angles. The up-filings, whether of rails or otherwise, as may be desired, to attain any particular object, are mere accessories, and not in any way tending to the stability or durability of the fabric.

"In treating of the practical construction of field-gates, it is perhaps unnecessary to dwell upon the strains that occur in the individual horizontal bars; because, if the principles referred to above are attended to, all cross strains in the principal joinings are avoided; and except when any extraneous force is applied, the strains are resolved by construction into those of direct compression or of tension. The practical insertion of the diagonal is also of some importance."

The "Builder" says:—"The principle of trussing has been successfully introduced into the wooden field-gate by Sir John Orde, of Kilmory, in Argyleshire; but the authors just quoted are doubtful of its utility in the common field-gate, from a suspected liability to lay hold of the harness of horses in passing, or entangle the feet of colts. A gate constructed by Mr. C. Miles, of London, architect, illustrated in the work under notice seems well adapted for fields.'

"It consists of both iron and wood. It has a strong cast-iron heel-post, which is round, tapering to the top, and is battened into a large stone in the ground. A collar of iron embraces and revolves round upon a projecting bead encircling the post. To one side of this collar is attached a socket of considerable depth, and of a form to receive into it the upper rail of the gate, which when properly seated, the socket prevents from drooping at the head. The under-rail style is, in every respect, fitted up in the same manner as the

upper one. The head-style is light, and completes the framing. The filling-up of the frame is left to choice, either in iron or wood."

"The field-gate maker should be instructed to hold steadily in view, that there is but one position and form for that member of the structure that can be fully efficient, and this is, the straight bar extending from the upper angle at the heel to its opposite angle at the head-post; and, if the materials of the gate are light, to apply an antagonist diagonal crossing the first. In framing the gate, also, the top and bottom bars should be set flatways, to enable the structure to resist lateral strain from animals rubbing or pushing against it."

One of the latest improvements is the angle iron. "In the application of the angle-iron to the construction of gates, the fabric acquires the rigidity of a massive wooden gate, with all the tenacity and strength of iron, while its weight is little more than that of wood."

#### A FEW WORDS ON THE CULTIVATION OF WHEAT.

Corn, oats, rye, and barley, are all more or less used as food for man—they are all eminently nutritious; but of all cereals, wheat is most preferred, and is most extensively used. On the other hand, few animals relish wheat, and without exception always prefer oats, corn, barley, or rye, where a choice is allowed them. Wheat was designed to supply the principal bread-food of the most active and intelligent portion of the human race. Ever since the sons of JACOB went to Egypt, to buy wheat, with *double money* and a present of "a little balm and little honey, spices and myrrh, nuts and almonds," the wheat-growing farmers could always find a market more readily than the producers of any other cereal.

Though wheat is a native of the temperate zones, yet is remarkably hardy, withstanding alike the hottest summers and the severest winters.—Its range of *habitat* is more extensive than that of any other cereal. From the cradle of the human race to the last clearing on our western frontier, wheat can be grown. While some soils are much better adapted to its cultivation than others, there are few soils so poor that they can not, by judicious management, be made to produce at least an occasional crop. The soil naturally adapted to the growth of wheat is of very limited extent. Its production for any length of time, in any country, is not an easy matter. Infinite wisdom has so ordered, that those things which are most desirable shall be the most difficult to obtain. As we have said, there is comparatively little land that will naturally produce good crops of wheat; but, on the other hand, there is even less land which intelligent and careful culture can not make to yield more or less wheat. In the county of Norfolk, in England, we have seen, on what was once a "blowing sand," large fields of wheat which would average forty bushels per acre. Farmers must not expect to grow this prime article of human food without intelligent labor. With it, nothing should daunt them. The Anglo-Saxon motto, "*Through*," combined with science, will overcome all obstacles.

It is impossible to lay down specific directions for the cultivation of wheat, adapted to all sections where the *Genesee Farmer* circulates. We

can but allude to general principles, and leave their application to the intelligence of the reader. In Western New York, so celebrated for the production of the famous "Genesee wheat," many fears are entertained that wheat culture must be given up on account of the ravages of the midge. We have repeatedly given our reasons for considering these fears unfounded. Farmers here have run their land too hard; they have sown too much wheat and other cereals. They must now sow a less area; select the best portion of the farm, manage judiciously, cultivate in the best manner, and sow early with plenty of seed and an early kind.

By far the greater portion of land in this section needs underdraining. Even intelligent farmers have the crudest and most erroneous views on this subject. They laugh at the idea that light, high, rolling land, can possibly need draining. Yet it is a fact that such land is often full of stagnant water. Dig a trench eight or ten feet long and three or four feet deep; let it remain open for a week or two, and see if in the mean time water does not accumulate and remain in it. If it does, the land certainly needs draining before it can produce healthy, early, maximum crops of wheat. Three-fourths of the land in Western New York is in this condition, and the wonder is, not that wheat so often fails, but that fair crops have been so long obtained. That judicious underdraining will pay in this section, has been repeatedly demonstrated. It no longer admits of a moment's doubt. Underdraining is a permanent improvement, and the increase obtained from it is net profit. We know of instances where the increase of the first crop of wheat after underdraining has paid the whole cost of constructing the drains. It seems impossible to make farmers believe this. We could wish that every town and county agricultural society in the State would appoint a committee, consisting of two or three intelligent practical farmers, to visit such thoroughly underdrained farms as those of John Johnston and Robert J. Swan, near Geneva, N. Y., and have them report at a subsequent meeting. Such is the force of *example* in agriculture, that we believe such a visit would lead to much good. We make the suggestion entirely on our own responsibility, feeling confident that Messrs. Johnston and Swan would cheerfully allow such persons to examine the results of their system of cultivation.

It is quite evident that since the prevalence of the midge in this section, a better system of cultivation, in many instances, has been introduced. Less land is sown to wheat, and more labor is bestowed in its preparation. Farmers are inquiring for the earliest varieties of wheat, and many are sending south for their seed. Mr. Cox, of Scottsville, informs us that he obtained *Blue Stem* wheat from Kentucky, last year, and it ripened this season as early as the *Mediterranean*, and was consequently little affected by the midge. These indications of the general interest felt in the subject of wheat growing lead us to believe that we are on the eve of great improvements in our system of farming.

One of the most notable facts in regard to the growth of wheat in the United States, is the immense quantity of land that is sown to produce a comparatively small quantity of grain. We believe the wheat crop of the United States does not average ten bushels per acre. Where land is cheap and labor high, what has been denominated "high

farming" will seldom pay; still, with our unrivaled facilities for the transmission of produce to the great markets of the world, the time has come when a more thorough system of cultivation will be profitable. More labor and less land must now be the rule among farmers, with perhaps here and there an exception. Few of us can manure our land as highly as we could wish, but nearly all can develop the latent fertility of the soil by better tillage, thorough cultivation, and a judicious system of rotation. By so doing, we can gradually increase the quantity and greatly augment the quality of the manure made on the farm. There is, too, on most farms, more or less low land of great natural fertility, which, by draining and good culture, may be made to produce immense quantities of grass and the coarser grains. These will enable the farmer to keep more stock, and thus to enrich the poorer, wheat-growing, upland portions of the farm.

Agriculture is a complex art. The wisest, the most persevering, the most skilful, and the most experienced, will find ample scope for all his energies. This is peculiarly true of the American farmer. A fairer field, a more encouraging prospect, was never offered to the farmers of any age or country. Let us prove ourselves worthy of it.

—*Genesee Farmer.*

#### LIEBIG THE CHEMIST.

On the last day which I passed in Munich, I went to hear the world-renowned chemist, Liebig, lecture. His laboratory and lecture-room are in the same house in which he resides. When he entered the lecture-room the students all rose to receive him, and he acknowledged their attention by a polite bow. He wore a black dress coat and white pantaloons. LIEBIG is a fine, intellectual-looking man, tall though not broad; has iron gray hair, which has fallen off from his broad and projecting forehead; he wears no beard. He lectures in a very conversational manner, part of the sitting; makes many gestures, and good ones too. His face is expressive. He is indeed a good deal of an orator, and perhaps the best popular lecturer in Germany. LIEBIG was fifty-six years old on the 12th of May, 1857. He was born in Darmstadt, and at the age of twenty-one was made Professor at Giessen. In 1852 he came to Munich. Between the years 1832 and 1856 he published one hundred and seventy-seven papers, many of which were very elaborate. He is said to be proud and overbearing; he is, however, on the side of progress, and heads the Reform party in the University. I heard an American gentleman, who was well acquainted with him, express this opinion—"I don't know a man whom a little judicious denning would do as much good as LIEBIG. He is cross and tyrannical to his assistants, and they do not deserve such treatment."

G. F. W.

*Correspondence of "Rural N. Y. Worker."*

 We are obliged to postpone, for want of room, a notice of the very valuable imported Fine Wool Sheep, exhibited at our Show, by S. S. Bradford, Esq. of Culpepper Co. Va., who is engaged largely, we are glad to learn, in the growing of fine wool.

**TOAST** to the ladies on the fourth of July.—Our stars before marriage, our stripes after.

**STANDING PASTURE—PERENNIAL RYE  
GRASS.**

A standing pasture should be considered as essential to a well managed farm. No one who has been accustomed to and felt the convenience of it, would be satisfied to be deprived of the advantages of a well turfed pasture always at command.

A subscriber makes the suggestion of a ready and quick method of improving an old pasture which has been worn down and wants renewing. It is to turn the sod well over in the Fall, and after putting it in good order by harrowing and rolling, sow the several sorts of grass seed—clover, timothy and orchard grass, with rye in the Fall, or with oats in the Spring. As soon as the grain affords a sufficient bite, the pasture comes into use again, and affords good grazing with no material disadvantage to the undergrowth of grass—except, of course, when the ground is wet. At such times stock should be carefully excluded.

Another subscriber near Baltimore, informs us of his very successful use of the Perennial Rye Grass in a permanent pasture. It resembles the orchard grass in its early and late growing, and gives good and abundant pasturage.

His correspondence with Messrs. Guerin & Chable, of East Tennessee, on the wine culture and wine making, politely furnished us by Major Giddings, will be read with pleasure by all who take an interest in this rapidly growing and important branch of culture.

In order to give our usual variety, and avoid the exclusion of much valuable matter by the Reports of the Committees of the Agricultural Society, we give some five or six additional pages of reading matter.

**ON THE POISON OF THE COMMON TOAD.**—It is an ancient and common opinion that toads and salamanders possess a subtle venom; this, however, has generally been deemed fabulous by those engaged in scientific pursuits. MM. Gratiot and Cloez, in a report to the French Academy, show that there is in reality some foundation for the common belief, and that toads and salamanders do secrete a deadly poison. They inoculated small animals with the milky fluid contained in the dorsal and parotid pustules of these animals, and found it productive of fatal effects, in a short space of time. A turtle dove, slightly wounded in the wing with the liquid secreted by the salamander, died in terrible convulsions in eight minutes. Five small birds inoculated with the lactescient humor of the common toad died in five or six seconds, but without convulsions. The liquid of the pustule of the toad kills birds even after being dried, though not with the same rapidity as when fresh.

Why does a drake put his head under water? For divers reasons.

Why does he take it out again? For sundry reasons.

**WHEAT GROWING.**

The numerous casualties to which wheat in late years has been liable in almost every section of the country, renders it necessary that more care, attention and discrimination be bestowed upon its culture than upon any other of our staple crops. Every year seems to multiply the enemies to this crop, and render a remunerating return more uncertain; hence the science and skill of the husbandman should be exercised to the fullest extent to mitigate the evils. Wheat is the universal bread material of the world, and unless science shall point out some means by which a more uniform and certain return may be obtained, the day is not far distant when a full supply can no longer be produced.

The Hessian fly has become a general enemy to the wheat crop, but much can be done to avert its attacks by observing the proper time of sowing the seed. It is the early sown wheat that is attacked by the fly. If the sowing is deferred until after the insect has appeared, there is little danger from it. This may be done and still allow the crop sufficient time to become well rooted before winter sets in. We can fix no precise date for sowing the seed that will apply to all sections, but the experience of the farmer should suggest the proper time for his particular locality. When wheat is attacked by this insect its mischief is not confined to the fall, but it remains during winter between the leaf and the main body of the plant ready to continue its work of destruction until its period of full maturity in the spring.—Little injury will be sustained from this insect if the proper time of sowing the seed is observed.

The next serious difficulty in the way of wheat growing is its liability to winter kill. The injury from this cause depends, in a great degree, upon the character and mechanical condition of the soil. Wheat, upon any soil that retains an undue quantity of water is subject to the greatest injury from this cause. The only remedy for this evil upon soil of this character is thorough drainage, an improvement that is destined to work a wonderful revolution in American farming.

Of all the insect depredations to which wheat is subject, the *midge* is the most formidable. It is scarcely thirty years since this enemy first made its appearance in this country, and for a long time its depredations were confined to narrow limits; it has since spread over New York, portions of Ohio, Indiana and other States, and it will not be many years before it will have made its appearance over every portion of the wheat-growing country. It is multiplied in immense numbers, and we know of no means by which its rapid increase can be checked. It is most destructive in those varieties of wheat which are characterized by the thinnest chaff. The eggs being inserted through the chaff into the forming grain soon after it has gone out of blossom. In fields of wheat that come forward a few days earlier than the crop generally, the midge will be found only in the lower and later heads, that happen to be soft just at the time the insect is ready to lay its eggs; this fact has suggested to some of the best farmers the importance of procuring those kinds of wheat that mature the earliest, so that it may become hard before the insect emerges from its winter quarters. Wheat eight or ten days in advance of the ordinary period of ripening often entirely escapes injury from this insect.

Mr. John Johnston, of Geneva, N. Y., secures from half to two-thirds of a crop of wheat by having his wheat ripen a few days earlier than his neighbours, who often loose their entire crop. This advantage he derives by draining his soil, and the application of salt and other manures, by which means his crop is advanced several days. In addition to this he sows the best early varieties of wheat he can procure.

There are other casualties to which wheat is liable, but the most formidable of which we have not before alluded to, is the rust. This, we believe, is entirely owing to the state of the weather at the time the grains are filling. Wet, wormy, sultry weather is the fruitful cause of this malady. Early maturity is the only means by which this evil can be avoided.

Early maturity, then, is a matter of the first importance as a means of avoiding the evil effects of most of these causes. To secure this, the land must first be put in the best possible order before sowing. Where land is wet, nothing adds more to the early maturity of any crop than complete draining. No soil can be warm and suitable for any growing crop that is saturated with water. Warming and stimulating manures afford additional means to promote early maturity.—Another, and the most important consideration of all, is to secure early varieties for seed. Like all other varieties of grain, there is a marked difference in the period of maturity of the different kinds now cultivated among us, and if the proper means were employed, new varieties might be produced that would ripen earlier than any of the kinds now cultivated. Some of the best varieties of wheat now known among us have been obtained by selecting the largest early matured heads that showed marks of superiority over the general crop.—*Ex.*

#### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

When we consider that agriculture is the great business of the nation—of mankind; that its successful prosecution depends upon a knowledge in the cultivators of the soil of the principles of natural science; and that our agriculture stands in need of this auxiliary aid, we cannot withhold our surprise and regret that we have not long since established professional schools, in which our youth, or such of them as are designed to manage this branch of national labour, might be taught simultaneously the principles and practice of their future business: a business on which, more than on any other employment in society, the fortunes of our country, moral, political, and national, depend. We require an initiatory study of years in the principles of law and medicine before we permit the pupil to practice in these professions.—We require a like preliminary study in our military and naval schools, in the science of war and navigation, ere the student is deemed qualified to command. And yet, in agriculture, by which, under the blessing of Providence, we virtually "live, and move, and have our being," and which truly embraces a wider range of useful science than either law, medicine, war, or navigation, we have no schools, we give no instructions, we bestow no government patronage. Scientific knowledge is deemed indispensable in many minor employments of life; but in this great business, in which its influence would be most potent and useful, we consider it, judging from our practice, of

less consequence than the fictions of the novelist. We regard mind as the most efficient power in most other pursuits; while we forget that in agriculture it is the Archimedean lever which, though it does not move, tends to fill a world with plenty, with moral health, and human happiness. Can it excite surprise, that, under these circumstances of gross neglect, agriculture should have become among us, in popular estimation, a clownish and ignoble employment?

In the absence of agricultural professional schools, could we not do much to enlighten and raise the character of American husbandry, by making its principles a branch of study in our district schools? This knowledge would seldom come amiss, and it would often prove a ready help under misfortune to those who had failed in other business. What man is there who may not expect, at some time of life, to profit directly by a knowledge of these principles? Who does not hope to become the owner or cultivator of a garden or a farm? And what man enjoying the blessing of health would be at a loss for the means of an honest livelihood, whose mind had been early imbued with the philosophy of rural culture, and who would rather work than beg?

An early acquaintance with natural science is calculated to beget a taste for rural life and rural labours, as a source of pleasure, profit, and honour. It will stimulate to the improvement of the mind; to elevate and purify it; it will lead to self-respect, to virtuous moral deportment. And it will tend to deter from the formation of bad habits, which steal upon the ignorant and the idle unawares, and which consign thousands of young men to poverty and disgrace, if not to premature graves. A knowledge of these principles to a very useful extent, can be acquired with as much facility in the school or upon the farm as other branches of learning. Why, then, shall they not be taught? Why shall we withhold from our agricultural population that knowledge which is so indispensable to their profit, to their independence, and to their correct bearing as freemen?—Why, while we boast of our superior privileges, keep in compcriptive ignorance of their business that class of our citizens who are truly the conservators of our freedom? I know of but one objection: the want of teachers. A few years ago, civil engineers were not to be found among us.—The demand for them created a supply. We have demonstrated that we have the materials for civil engineers, and that we can work them up. We have materials for teachers of agricultural science, which we can also work up. Demand will always ensure a supply.

The enumeration of the foregoing obstacles to agricultural improvement sufficiently indicates the means which will be efficient in removing them. These means consist, so far as I now propose to notice them,

1. In giving a professional education to the young farmer, which shall embrace the principles and practice of the business which he is designed to follow in life; and,

2. In diffusing more extensively among those who have completed their juvenile studies, and are better fitted to profit by the lessons of wisdom and experience, a knowledge of the same principles, and of the best modes of practice which these principles inculcate, and which experience has proved to be sound.

We have professional schools in almost every business of life, except in the cultivation of the soil, one of the most important and essential of them all, and one embracing a larger scope of useful study in natural science, and in usefulness to the temporal wants of the human family, than any other. The policy of monarchs and of privileged orders has been to repress intelligence in the agricultural mass, in order to keep them in a subordinate station. But neither the policy nor the practice should be countenanced by us. Our agriculturists are our privileged class, if we have such. They are our sovereigns, because, from their superior numbers, they must ever control our political destinies for good or for evil. And the more intelligent and independent we can render them, the more safe we make our country from the convulsions of internal feuds and the dangers of foreign war.

I put the question to fathers: Would you esteem that son less, or think him less likely to fulfil the great duties of life, who had been educated in a professional school of agriculture, with all the high qualifications which it would confer for public and domestic usefulness, than him who had been educated for the counter, the bar, or other high professional callings? On which could you best rely for support and comfort in the decline of life? Nay, I will venture to carry the appeal farther; to the discriminating judgment of the unmarried lady: Would you reject, as a partner for life, the student of such a college, coming forth with a sound mind, deeply imbued with useful knowledge, and a hale constitution invigorated by manly exercise, whose cares and affections were likely to be concentrated upon home and country, and whose precepts and examples would tend to diffuse industry, prosperity, and rural happiness around him? The father's response would, I think, be an unhesitating no to the first question; and the lady's, after due deliberation, I verily suspect, would be a half-articulate amen. I pretend not to the spirit of prophecy, yet I venture to predict that many who now hear me will live to see professional schools of agriculture established in our land, to see their utility extolled, and to be induced to consider them the best nurseries for republican virtues, and the surest guarantee for the perpetuity of our liberties. They should be established; they will be established; and, the sooner they are established, the better for our country.—*Judge Buel.*

**THE COMPOSITION OF MILK AT VARIOUS TIMES OF THE DAY.**—Professor Beedecker has analyzed the milk of a healthy cow at various times of the day, with the view of determining the changes in the relative amount of its constituents. He found the solids of the evening milk (13 per cent) exceeding those of the morning's milk (10 per cent) while the water contained in the fluid was diminished from 89 to 36 per cent. The fatty matter gradually increases as the day progresses. In the morning they amount to 2.17 per cent., at noon 2.63 per cent., and in the evening 5.42 per cent.—This fact is important in a practical point of view, for while sixteen ounces of morning's milk will yield nearly half an ounce of butter, about double this quantity may be obtained from the evening's milk.—*Ed. Medical Review.*

The man who tried to sweeten his tea with the smiles of his wife has fallen back on sugar.

#### FAT PORK AS HUMAN FOOD.

"A fat hog is the very quintessence of scrofula and carbonic acid gas, and he who eats it must not expect thereby to build up a sound physical organism. While it contributes heat, not the twentieth part of it is nitrogen, the base of muscle." The *Scientific American* cordially endorses the above sentiment, as being sound practical truth, and says—"Fat pork was never designed for human food. It is material for breath, and nothing more. See Liebig and other organic chemists and physiologists. It makes no red meat or muscle. The prize fighter is not allowed to eat it. All that is not consumed by the lungs, remains to clog the body with fat."

To the Editors of the *Courier*, Zanesville.

The short article in yesterday's *Courier*, thus entitled, is calculated to mislead, and therefore I would offer the following remarks in reference to our great Ohio staple:

A fat hog is truly the quintessence of scrofula, for scrofa in Greek is hog, and the derivative scrofulous means hoggy. The disease scrofula, was so called when medical science was in its infancy, from its supposed resemblance to some diseases of the hog, and then the inference was easy, that eating the hog (scrofa) produced the hog-disease (scrofula). It is well known, however, that our American Indians and the Hindoos, who never use pork, are liable to this disease; that in Europe it prevails chiefly among the ill-fed poor, who hardly taste meat of any kind.

On the other hand the Chinaman and our own pioneers, who hardly eat any other flesh, are remarkably healthy and exempt from scrofula—a disease we have much more reason to suspect as originating long ago from the hereditary taint of an unmentionable disease favored by irregular living and poor diet.

In the south, from their sleek appearance and exemption from scrofula, you can at once distinguish the bacon-fed negro.

These examples may suffice on that head.

Fat Pork is not in any sense carbonic acid, but hydro-carbon, a combination of hydrogen and carbon. It becomes carbonic acid and water by combining with oxygen in the act of being burned or digested, which is much the same thing—giving off during those processes large amounts of heat and light.

It is true the fat of fat pork does not make blood or red flesh, though the lean which is always eaten alone does. It is as your article says truly, material for breath. Well that is a good deal. It is supposed that if the writer's breath had stopped five minutes before he took his pen, we should never have seen his article on fat pork.

But it does more. All the fat that goes into the stomach and thence into the blood does not undergo slow burning in the lungs by the process of burning, but is deposited in the body as human fat. Now a certain amount of fat is so necessary for the proper play of all the parts, muscles included, that without it, the body, like an ungreased engine, wears itself out by its own friction. In consumption, the waste of fat is one alarming and most dangerous symptom, and the far famed cod-liver-oil acts perhaps chiefly by supplying the blood with fat.

I am satisfied by experience that fat pork—

when the stomach will receive it—does just as well. Moreover, few of those delicate persons that have so great an aversion to pork or other fat, ever live to see 40 years. They die young of consumption. Butter, sugar, starch, vegetable oils act, to some extent as animal fat, and in tropical climates are used as substitutes.

But go to the arctic regions and see the refined Dr. Kane and his men devour raw walrus blubber with a gusto, as we would take a dish of ice cream, and you will conclude that "fat pork," particularly in our arctic winters, is not so bad an institution.

We could not live on fat pork alone—nor on sugar and starch—though we could on bread.—Bread, the *staff of life*, contains the materials both for breathing and making blood and red flesh (muscle) in a supereminent degree, greater even than lean beef or any other single article of food, and this, or some substitute, such as beans, peas, potatoes, etc. is always eaten with fat pork, so that there is a sufficient supply of blood and flesh-making material. However, excess is bad, and the fat pork must not constitute the bulk of a meal.

Chemical analysis is a poor substitute for the observation of facts in the living body, nor can we even base very much on experiments made on Mr. Martin, the man with the hole in his stomach, by which food can be introduced and digestion observed, for that is not nature's way of getting it there, and a stomach with such an unnatural opening is much like a leaky dinner pot with a hole in the bottom stuffed with a rag. Extended experience alone can settle such a question.

The Greeks and Romans esteem pork as a luxury, and a most wholesome diet; their athlete and gladiators (prize-fighters) were fed on pork. our own Saxon (Teutonic Scandinavian) ancestors esteemed it so highly that they, even in their heaven, provided a great hog with golden bristles, called Gulliborstli, of whose bacon the heroes of Walhalla dined every day, when at night the picked bones again united and became covered with a fresh supply of fat pork. In this estimate of the hog, the mass of mankind, not of the Shemite race, (Jews, Turks, Arabs, etc.,) who follow Moses' law, that had spiritual and representative meaning, have in all ages, agreed, and will agree, as long as man has canine teeth, and lives by *drawing his breath*. Whenever the Scientific American or Prof. Liebig will discover a new process of living, without breathing, we may be guided by their opinion; till then, I opine, "good corn-fed (and no other in good) pork" will rule the roast, of which themselves will not be slow to partake.

My remarks are of course, only applicable to men, women and children with comparatively healthy stomachs, who have sufficient exercise, with pure air and pure water.

Yours, with respect,

JOHN G. F. HOLSTON, A. M., M. D.

Why is a young lady preparatory to dressing in her crinoline, like a flour barrel?

Because the hoops have to be raised before the head will go in.

THE WAY TO A WOMAN'S HEART.—The surest way to hit a woman's heart, is to take aim kneeling.

#### VALUE OF SOUTHERN EXPORTS.

"Let the Union slide," said Mr. Banks. "The south do not contribute to our national commercial glory," says the abolitionist, and such has been the ignorance of the whole party, rank and file, from its first formation to the present hour, that they really do think all the best business of this country is done by the North, with Northern capital and in Northern products: with some cotton carrying in our ships they barely allow. Let us see what the South does, and how much our free labor contributes to freight ships and keep up the ocean trade of the North.

In 1850 our total exports were in round numbers \$136,000,000. The cotton and tobacco crop alone that year was over \$81,900,000, and making full allowance for all other products North and South, free labor did not furnish over \$40,000,000 of that year's business. In 1851 the total exports were \$195,000,000 of which cotton and tobacco furnished, \$121,000,000 the south furnished \$45,000,000, the north the remainder. In 1852 the exports were \$192,309,000; of this sum cotton and tobacco made up \$98,000,000; North furnishes \$72,000,000, including \$37,000,000 in specie. In 1853 the North only exported \$63,030,000 specie and all, while the South furnished in her two staples alone \$121,000,000. In 1854 the North exported specie and all \$60,000,000; and the South in her two staples alone \$140,000,000. The total exports at this time were \$253,500,000. In 1855 the North exported \$104,000,000, one half of which was specie, while cotton and tobacco alone footed up \$103,000,000. In 1856 the exports were \$310,500,000, the North including \$44,000,000, of specie, exported less than \$110,000,000 while cotton and tobacco foot up at \$140,000,000.

Cotton fills two thirds of all the outward bound Northern ships, and in fact the South has been paying for years the debts in Europe contracted by the North for silks, satins and laces, consumed by the very class who rail out against black labor at the South and without the cotton and tobacco, the North would have drained the country for specie to settle with. Upon the whole, the less the North says about cutting loose from the South the better, till those who take up this cry understand how much they are indebted to the South for all that makes our Northern cities famous for commerce and foreign trade. When Mr. Banks said last summer that free labor freighted the ships of the North; he showed himself remarkably ignorant of a subject which, if touched upon by him, should have been familiar, or otherwise let alone.—*N. Y. Day Book.*

HALZ's experiments show that a sunflower, bulk for bulk, imbibes and perspires seventeen times more fresh liquor than a man, every 24 hours.—Lawes's experiment "on the amount of water given off by plants during their growth" shows that the clover on an acre that would afford two tons of hay absorbs from the soil and gives off from its leaves 430 tons of water in 101 days, or eight thousand six hundred pounds per day. Those who allow clover, grass, weeds, or any other plants to grow among their fruit trees or any cultivated crop, should not complain.—*Genesee Farmer.*

A kiss, says an ingenious author, is like the creation, because it is made of nothing and is very good.

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Boyer, W. L.—Farm Mill.  
 Creamer, W.—Farm in Patapsco Neck, Md.  
 Grupy, F. H.—Shoe Pegs and Findings.  
 Harshbarger, A.—Grape Vines and Hedge Plants.  
 Johnson, Ross.—Balancing Window Sash.  
 Linsley, D. C., & A. O. Moore, N. Y., Agent  
 American Stock Journal.  
 Lovas, H.—Valuable Book.  
 Mauge, F. A.—Rose Grower, Augusta, Ga.  
 Maryland Ag. Society.—Meeting in December.  
 Norris, Thomas.—Awards of First Premiums at  
 Maryland Agricultural Show.  
 Parsons & Co.—Fruit and Ornamental Trees, &c.  
 Rogers, C. B.—Peach Trees.  
 Rogers, C. B.—Peach Blossom Potatoes.  
 Rogers, C. B.—Early June Potatoes.  
 Sexton, C. M.—The Horticulturist.  
 Seaboard Ag. Society of Va. and N. C.—Annual  
 Fair.  
 Shields, H. L.—Trotting Stallion Belair.  
 Westbrook & Mendenhall—Fruit Trees, &c., at  
 their Nurseries at Greensboro, N. C.  
 Warns, C.—Chester Hogs.

## BALTIMORE MARKETS, Oct. 29th.

**Flour.**—There has been little change in the Flour Market since our last. We quote Howard street Superfine, \$5 25; Ohio do., \$5 25; Howard street Extra, \$6 00; Ohio Extra, \$5 75; Baltimore ground Family Flour, \$7 50; Extra, \$6 50.

**Wheat.**—The Grain Market shows some depression during the past month. There has been very little demand for shipping, and the market has been sufficiently supplied. We quote Red at \$1 18 to \$1 25, for good to prime reds, 1 15 for ordinary white, 1 30 to 1 40 for good to prime.

**Corn.**—We quote Corn, White, 72 to 75 cts.; Yellow, 77 to 81; New White, 55 to 60.

**Oats.**—We quote Oats 42 to 50.

**Rye.**—Maryland 65 to 68 cts.; Pennsylvania 80 to 83.

**Tobacco.**—Tobacco continues in active demand; prices are firm. We quote inferior to good Maryland \$4 to \$6 75; Superior, \$8 25 to \$10 75. Bay Tobacco we quote, Tips \$4 50 to \$5 50; Seconds \$5 50 to \$7 00; Spangled \$7 00 to \$12 00; Fine Yellow, \$12 00 to \$16 00. Ohio Tobacco; common Green, \$5 50; common Spangled, \$6 50; common to middling Red Spangled, \$6 50 to \$7 50; good to fine Red and yellow Spangled, \$8 to \$10; good to fine Yellow, \$11 to \$15 00; Kentucky \$6 00 to 6 25 for Lugs; \$7 50 to \$8 50 for medium leaf, and \$9 00 to \$12 00 for wrappers.

**Cotton.**—10 cts. cash; 14 cts. four months.

**Plaster.**—\$2 75 to \$3 00 per ton.

**Seeds.**—Clover seed, \$5 50; \$5 56 for new; Timothy Seed, \$2 00 to \$2 25; Flax Seed, \$1 40, to 1 45.

**Wool.**—Unwashed, 20 to 23 cts., tub washed 31 to 34; No. 1 pulled, 26 to 28; Merino pulled, 27 to 30; common Fleece washed, 28 to 30; quarter to half blood, 30 to 33; half to three-quarters, 30 to 35; three-quarter to full blood, 32 to 38; Extra, 39 to 42; (all washed.)

**Cattle, Sheep and Hogs.**—Supply of Beef large.—Price ranges from \$2 50 to \$3 62 averaging \$3 06; on the hoof, equal to \$6 75, net. Hogs, \$5 00 to \$6 per hundred pounds, net. Sheep, \$2 to 3 50 per 100 lbs. gross.

**Guano.**—Peruvian Guano in small lots is selling at \$62 50 to \$63 per ton of 2,240 lbs.; California or Elide Guano, \$38 per ton of 2,000, \$40 per ton of 2,240 lbs., in lots of 50 tons and upward; Mexican AA, \$23 to 25, and A at \$18 to 20 per ton of 2,240; White Mexican A at \$30 per ton; Nevada Brown Colombian, at \$25, and El Roque, at \$34. De Burg's Superphosphates, \$45 per ton of 2,000 lbs.; Whitelock's Superphosphates, at \$40, and Rhodes' \$45 per ton of 2000 lbs. Reese's Manipulated and Kettewell's Manipulated Guano, \$47. Ground Bones, coarse, \$25, fine, \$27, per ton of 2000 lbs. or 68 cts the bushel.

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## THE SEABOARD Agricultural Society of Virginia and North Carolina,

WILL HOLD THEIR

## FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR

—AND—

### CATTLE SHOW.

UPON THEIR GROUNDS, NEAR NORFOLK,

### THE SECOND WEEK IN NOVEMBER.

It will open on the 9th, and continue 10th, 11th and 12th instant.

**MANUFACTURERS** of Farming Implements, Machinery, &c., and Stock raisers are respectfully solicited to contribute to the Exhibition.

—The Fair and Exhibition of 1857 was eminently successful, and the Executive Committee indulge the hope, that the approaching Fair will in all respects be its equal, if not its superior.

OF-Membership Fee, \$1.

Oct 22

### Maryland Agricultural Society Notice.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Maryland Agricultural Society will please take notice that the next REGULAR MEETING will take place at the Room of the Society, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on TUESDAY, December 7th, to elect a Marshall, Treasurer, and General Secretary. The Executive Committee, it will be remembered, consists, under the amendment to the Constitution recently adopted, of the President, all the Vice Presidents, the Curators, and the Corresponding Secretary.

JOHN MERRYMAN, President.

Nov 11.

S. SANDS, Genl. Sec'y.

## AMERICAN FARMER—ADVERTISER.

VOLUME XIV OF

# THE HORTICULTURIST

WILL COMMENCE WITH JANUARY, 1859.

This popular journal, established by A. J. DOWNEY in 1846, and now edited by J. JAY SMITH, embraces within its scope the Description and Cultivation of Fruit and Fruit Trees, of Flowers, Flowering Plants and Shrubs, and of all Edible Plants; Gardening as an Art of Taste, with Designs for Ornamental or Landscape Gardening; Rural Architecture, with Designs for Rural Cottages and Villas, Farm Houses, Lodges, Gates, Vineries, Ice Houses, &c., and the Planting and Culture of Forest and Ornamental Trees.

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Bound Volumes in cloth for 1852, \$4.50. Volumes for 1854, '5, '6, '7, '8, \$2.50 each.

The publisher would invite the introduction of

### THE HORTICULTURIST

In neighborhoods by the formation of Clubs, as a most desirable means of information to all lovers of Rural Art, Gardening and Architecture.

We hope every subscriber and friend will consider himself duly authorized to act as an Agent.

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## NURSERY OF PARSONS & CO.

DURING a recent visit to this celebrated nursery at Flushing, Long Island, we observed many objects of interest. It is well known as one of the best in this country. It occupies about one hundred acres of land—A larger portion than in most nurseries is devoted to ornamental trees, evergreens, &c. There is a propagating house 100 feet long, and several thousand feet of cold frames and pits, belonging to the hardy department; in addition to which there is a graperie 130 feet long; a house 40 feet long and 20 wide for stove plants and orchids; one for rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias, 100 feet long, and another for camellias exclusively, the same length; one for Ericas, Epacris, Boronias, Apheleia, and New Holland plants, 100 feet long; another of the same length for geraniums, roses and calceolarias; one of 50 feet for anacias, daphnes and green-house plants; and one 45 feet for bulbs. Connected with this department there is a 100 feet propagating-house, and about 400 running feet of brick and stone cold pits. These structures and the open ground contain perhaps the largest collections of Rhododendrons, Stuardias, Andromeda arborea, &c., in this country. The cultivation of rare plants, and those of difficult propagation, distinguishes this establishment; and we observed that the grafting of evergreens was conducted with great success. We observed in flower the "Lilium giganteum," a new plant from the Himalaya mountains—so far as we are aware, the first that has bloomed in this country.—*The Country Gentleman.*

Nov-11

## LARGE AND VALUABLE FARM

Of 543 acres in Patapsco Neck,

### FOR SALE.

That well known and desirable FARM, situated in Patapsco Creek, about 12 miles from the city by land, and 3 miles by water, known as the Evergreen Farm, and formerly belonging to the late Col. Josia Green. It contains 543-4 acres of land, more or less, about 36 acres of which are clear, the balance in wood. There is on this farm some of the most valuable trucking land in the State, all in a high state of cultivation. The cleared land is divided into 12 fields, with good landing to each.

The improvements consist of a large and comfortable stone Dwelling, with out-houses, stables, barns, &c. There are also several springs of excellent water.

Its short and easy access by water, with a good road by land, make this one of the best locations in the State. It is nearly surrounded by water, having 5 miles of shore. The water abounds in fish and wild fowl in season. There are six fine natural gunning points.

Persons wishing information will please call on Col. Samuel H. Gover, Thomas Creamer, or on the premises to the subscriber.

Nov-11\*

WILLIAM CREAMER.

## GRAPE VINES AND HEDGE PLANTS.

HAVING been successful in growing OSAGEORANGE HEDGES during the past four years, in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, to the satisfaction of my numerous customers, for which I am thankful for past favours and would solicit further patronage in the introduction of this beautiful and economical mode of fencing. A large lot of plants constantly on hand and for sale. Having nine acres of Vinyard, I would solicit correspondence on the subject of Wine making and the introduction of the grape in general. I can furnish ISABELLA AND CATAWBA VINES and Cuttings in larger small quantities.

For circulars on Hedging and prices of Grape Vines, &c. will be given by addressing, A. HARSHBARGER, Nov-11\* McVeytown, Mifflin County, Pa.

## F. A. MAUCE, ROSE GROWER,

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA.

Wholesale Price List and Descriptive Catalogue will be sent gratis to all applicants.

EARLY JUNE POTATOES, and  
EARLY PINK-EYE POTATOES,  
Which are the best known for early planting, for sale by

C. B. ROGERS,

Nov-11\* No. 111 Market street, Philadelphia.

## PEACH BLOSSOM POTATOES.

THOSE who look to their interest, will not fail in securing a supply of this superior potato, which is not only the best potato known, but it yields two to four times as many bushels per acre as the Mercer potato, and has been much improved in bringing south.

For sale by C. B. ROGERS.  
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**50,000 PEACH TREES**, of the best  
Inoculated Standard varieties.  
For sale by C. B. ROGERS,  
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## Trotting Stallion For Sale.

**TROTTING STALLION BELAIR**—Sired by Fallon's Black Hawk Ticonderoga—dam (Thoroughbred) by Chas. Magic—g. dam by Gracchus out of Miss Chance, is offered for sale. He is 5 years old, 15 hands high, Chestnut, great style, and can trot (untrained,) in about three minutes, kind in harness. Price, \$500. Address,  
Nov-11\* H. L. SHIELDS, Bennington, Vermont.